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THE
FAMILY OF ROBERT WILLIS
OF
BARNWELL COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA
AS FAR AS FOUND MARCH 1962

BY
ELIZABETH WILLIS DeHUFF

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA
1962

THE

STORY OF THE

OF

AMERICAN PEOPLE, FROM THE

OF THE FIRST SETTLEMENTS

TO

THE PRESENT

OF THE

1845

1899692

Gift:

*Mrs. Mildred Ezell
July 1962*

THE FAMILY OF ROBERT WILLIS OF BARNWELL COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA
AS FAR AS FOUND MARCH 1962
By Elizabeth Willis DeHuff
2429 Walton Way, Augusta, Ga.

After my many years of research on this Robert Willis family, I am still left with only knowledge without documentary proof, because of the burning by Gen'l. Sherman's soldiers in 1865 of the Orangeburg Court House and Willis homes around Williston, S.C.

Of one thing only am I sure: my father, the late John Turner Willis who was keenly interested in his progenitors, knew that his first South Carolina Willis ancestor came there "from Culpeper County, Virginia," a tradition also stated by several relatives of the same generation scattered over South Carolina.

There was a John Willis, who left a will in Richmond Co., Virginia, in 1715, leaving three sons: a. John who died without issue; b. William who married Sarah--who married in succession William Willis, Henry Wood, Rush Hudson, Edward Turberville and left a will in 1760 naming two Willis sons, John and William (Will Bk. 2, p 310, Orange Co., Va.)-- and c. Charles who married Matilda Thacher.

The line of b. William, son of John, Will in Orange Co. 1762, has been extensively researched by the genealogist Mrs. Gottschalk and further investigated by me as a possible line of ancestry, only to find that there is no possibility that Robert Willis (1733-1844), Barnwell Co., S.C. was of this descent. In regard to c. Charles and Matilda Willis, according to Mrs. Gottschalk, Charles' will or administration was probably recorded in an early Will Book of King George Co., Va., which is no longer extant. He had two known sons: 1. John, named in the will of his grandfather John Willis in 1715, and 2. Charles who died intestate in King George Co. and whose wife Hester asked to be made Administratrix of his estate. They had a son William, as shown by a deed in Bk. 7, p 36, King George Co., Va., Dec. 4, 1784: "William Willis of the County of Fauquier and Hester his (sic) Johnson" to George Marshall 178 acres in Hanover Parish "as heir at law to his father Charles Willis dec'd and his grandfather." Signed by William Willis and Hester (X) Johnson.

The description of this land shows it to be that inherited by Charles from his father John in 1715. No record of other children of Charles and Hester have been found to identify them as such.

1. John Willis, son of Charles and Matilda, above, died intestate in King George Co. 1752/3. Court Order Bk. 1751-1765, p 148. Feb. 5, 1753, Edward Dixon was appointed Administrator of John Willis dec'd. In the same book, p 877, on Nov. 1, 1759, Elizabeth, widow of John Willis dec'd was allotted her dower.

The will of Elizabeth Willis is recorded in Will Bk. 1, p 261, leaving all of her estate to son Francis Willis, thence to his daughter Jane except shillings to her grandchildren "(viz) William Elizabeth Willis & Younger Johnson. Wits. Wm. Thornton and Wm. Chapman, proved 2nd July 1767. Grandson Willis Johnson moved to Edgefield Co., S.C., where he recorded several deeds. He died in Georgia and a descendant was later Governor of Georgia. Son Francis Willis died intestate in Culpeper Co., Va. in 1788. He married Jane Marders as shown by a deed recorded in Culpeper Co. April 18, 1796 (Bk. S, p 514): "At a Court held in Culpeper Co....Ann Marders for the love"...for her daughter Jane and grandchildren Ann Ward, Sarah Monroe, John Willis, Charles Willis, Francis Willis and Jane Willis, a slave, which "must not fall into the hands of William Poulter husband of my daughter Jane."

Culpeper Co. Marriages give the following concerning the widow and these children of Francis Willis:

Jane Willis with William Poulter, Dec. 16, 1788

Jane Willis with William Hisle in 1796

John Willis with Edna Bragg, Dec. 22, 1802

Charles Willis with Lucy Shelton, Jan. 16, 1794

Son Francis Willis died without issue, Will recorded in Chatham Co., North Carolina. A James Willis, who had married Elizabeth Wilson in Caroline Co., Va., but left a Will recorded in Chatham Co., North Carolina in 1795 probably also belongs to this family group of John Willis, Will 1715.

Thus we find that the only possibility of descent for

Robert Willis (1773-1844) from John Willis, Will 1715, Richmond Co., Va., is through the above Sarah Turberville's second son, William Willis, to whom she bequeathed 10 shillings in her will. Thus far no identifying records have been found for this William; or for that Charles and Matilda Willis who might have had a third so far unknown son, who moved to Culpeper Co., thence to South Carolina. No such son has been discovered, unless he was the William Willis who received a grant in South Carolina of 200 acres of land "on northeast side of Wateree river" 16 Jan'y 1761, which he deeded to John Simmons Feb. 3, 1761 (Charleston deeds, Bk. 7, folio 188). No further records have been found of him in South Carolina. He might also have been the William Willis whose will was recorded in Rutherford Co., North Carolina (Bk. A, p 1) dated April 14, 1782, having moved on into North Carolina. Yellow fever drove many people from the swamps of South Carolina to higher altitudes or latitudes at this era.

The only apparent vague connection then between this above described family of John Willis of Will in Richmond Co., Va., 1715 and Robert Willis (1773-1844) Barnwell Co., S.C., are (1) that each had connections with families named Johnson (Johnston) and (2) that Robert Willis and wife Keziah Watson named their fifth daughter "Matilda", a first name found in this said John Willis family in Virginia. The names of Robert and Keziah Willis' daughters ran: Sarah, Martha, Winifred, Cyrena, Matilda, Antoinette and Ellen. The first three were probably family names, since Keziah's mother was "Martha;" her aunt was "Winifred" who married a Vardell; and, perhaps, "Sarah" was the name of Robert Willis' mother. There is no known connection with the two families in the other daughters' names. Hence "Matilda" might not signify any earlier ancestress. No relationship has been found between Richard Johnson, whom tradition states married the widowed mother of Robert Willis (1773-1844) and other Johnsons who also appear on the early records of Edgefield Co., S.C.: Willis Johnson and Burwell Johnson, who recorded several deeds and who are listed as Revolutionary soldiers; Lewis Johnson; Rachel, widow of David Johnson and their children.

It can, therefore, be safely assumed that Robert Willis, of Barnwell Co., S.C. was not descended from John Willis who left a Will in Richmond Co., Va., in 1715, naming three sons, and whose descendants in Virginia have the tradition that he, John Willis, was the son of William Willis named as Executor in the Will of Francis Willis recorded in England in 1691, as will be given below.

There is possibility and strong evidence, as will be shown, that Robert Willis (1773-1844) of Barnwell Co., S.C. was the son of John Willis who came to South Carolina in 1750, apparently with William Strother and other members of the Strother family, and who was John the-second-son-by-that-name of Henry Willis, of Fredericksburg, Virginia. Our discussion of this will, therefore, begin with the "three brothers who came to Virginia in the 1600's from England," as our tradition states.

On the records of the University of Oxford, England, for the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, may be seen the names of seven members of the Willis family, who matriculated during the period from 1557 to 1681. All appear to have distinguished themselves in the University. Five of them received the degree of Bachelor of Arts and later that of Master of Arts: one of them became a Doctor of Divinity; one a Bachelor of Civil Law; One a Bachelor of Medicine; and three of them held fellowships. Besides this, as Church dignitaries, three of them became vicars; two became rectors; one was a dean; and one was a canon. The oldest of these is believed to be the progenitor of the Virginia Willises. He is recorded as a scholar at St. John College, Oxford, in 1557, the fifth year of the reign of Queen Mary. He died in the year 1596. A stained glass window in his memory is in the chapel there. (Foster's Oxford Matriculations). Also see "The Willis Family of New England and New Jersey," p 33.

In the Brittish Museum is a translation out of Catullus, Tibbulus and Propertius by Francis Willis (date 1685), Fellow of New College, Oxford, and in the Index there is the following reference to a poem: To his Honored Friend and Relation, Mr. Francis Willis, Merchant in Greenwich (chart on opposite page of quarterly shows Francis Willis of Will 1689 "at last of E.

Greenwich, England"), upon his discovery of a weed in Virginia, which is a present remedy against the Venom of the Rattlesnake, Francis Willis, Fellow of the Coll., (Oxford). (W&M Quart. (1) 5 (July 1896-Apr. 1897) p 26). This date 1685 suggests that this Francis was son of Henry Willis and father of Col. Henry Willis of Fredericksburg, born ca. 1692.

The three brothers who came to Virginia were (1) Francis, who came to York Co., Va., about 1639 and served as Burgess, alternately for York and Gloucester Counties 1652-1660 (Stanard's "Colonial Virginia Register", pp 38, 69, 70, 72, 75, 76). He was a member of the King's Council continuously until 1675, when he, with his wife Jane, silver and household goods, returned to England to live at East Greenwich until his death in 1691. (2) Henry Willis, who had land in Charles River Parish, York Co., Va. in 1638/39. (3) William Willis, who lived on Craney Creek, Gloucester Co., Va. before 1689.

The following Miscellaneous records have been found: "There is due Rd. Evens 250 acres for transporting...Henry Willis.. (Va. Col. Abst. Vol. 25 (1646-1648) York Co., p 352.)

"Oct. 25, 1649, Leiuetent Willm Lewis demandeth 100 acres for transportation of ffrancis Willis his manservant this yeare." (Liber A, folio 265, Grant (280), Maryland Hist. Mag. Vol. 7, p 389.) No records have been found of Francis, son of Henry Willis that can be identified. He must have remained in England and his sons Francis and Henry came to America.

No administration, inventory or will have been found for either Henry or William Willis, the deceased brothers mentioned in the following will of their brother Francis Willis, who died in East Greenwich, England, after many active years in America.

Copied from the NEW ENGLAND HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL REGISTER, Vol. 41, pp 257/58 is the following transcript of the will of Francis Willis. He is purported to have been named Francis for his father and grandfather.

Francis Willis of the Parish of Ware River, in the Co. of

Gloucester in Virginia, but now resident of the parish of East Greenwich, in the County of Kent, Gentleman, 6 July 1689, proved 25 April 1691.

My body to be decently buried, my executor not exceeding one hundred pounds sterling at my funeral, in costs and charges. To my loving sister Grace Fielder 120 pounds sterling to be paid in manner & form following (that is to say) 15 pounds per annum during her life, or until the sum of 120 pounds be fully paid, which first shall happen. To Charles Fielder, the son of my sister Grace aforesaid 100 pounds sterling (in payments of 20 pounds per annum until the sum of 100 pounds be fully paid.) To my cousin Elizabeth Butler and her daughter Sarah Butts 10 pounds sterling apiece. To my cousins Frances and Elizabeth Willis, sisters to Hugh Willis, clerk, the sum of 10 pounds sterling apiece. To Francis and Christopher Willis, the sons of the said Hugh Willis, clerk, deceased, the sum of 20 pounds sterling apiece. To the widow of Hugh Willis 10 pounds sterling. To Susannah Willis, the daughter of my brother Henry Willis 10 pounds sterling. To my cousins John and Joane Lipton 100 pounds sterling & to her two children, Henry and Mary, 130 pounds sterling apiece. To my cousin Mary Herren, the daughter of my brother Henry Willis deceased the sum of 350 pounds sterling. To Alice Willis, daughter of brother Henry, 350 pounds sterling. To my loving cousin Elizabeth Ironmonger 100 pounds sterling & to her two sons Charles & Matthew Ironmonger 100 pounds sterling apiece.

To William Willis, the son of my brother William Willis deceased, 150 pounds sterling. To the poor of the Parish of St. Fowles als St Algate in the city of Oxford, the place of my birth, 100 pounds sterling. And all my legacies, I desire to be paid within 18 months after my decease.

To my dear & loving wife Jane Willis, the sum of 1000 pounds sterling, to be paid her in the first place, within one year after my decease, and all the household vessels of plate, linen & bedding which she brought over with her from Virginia to England (& other personal estate).

I give unto the said William Willis the son of my brother William Willis deceased all that land & plantation, which his father formerly lived upon and held for me, with the appurtenances, situate on the South side of Craney Creek, containing 100 acres, or thereabouts, to him & the heirs of his body lawfully begotten, or to be begotten, or for want of such heirs, then to the right heirs of me, the said Francis Willis.

I give and devise unto the said Francis Willis, the son of brother Henry Willis deceased all the rest and residue of all my other estate and estates whatsoever in lands, goods, moneys, cattle & chattells that I now at this time stand siezed or possessed of in Virginia, and not herein already devised, also 1000 pounds, to be paid him within 18 months after my decease.

I ordain & make William Willis the son of my brother Henry Willis deceased, sole executor of this my will and testament. I give unto Mr. Edward Polter, of the Parish of St. Peters, in the East in Oxford City, milliner, and Mr. George Richards of London, merchant, whom I desire and appoint to be overseers &c, the sum of ten pounds sterling apiece.

Witnesses: Richard Jones, Margaret Nicholson, Joseph Busfield. (Vere, 201).

Since tradition is so strong that we descend from one of the three brothers Francis, Henry and William, who came from England to Virginia, we will consider the men named in the will of Francis Willis.

From William and Mary Quart. Vol. 5, p 27 (series 1): Francis Willis had sons (1) Francis (Progenitor of American Willis emigrants. E.DeH.) and (2) John Willis, "Gentleman" of New College, Oxford, Will probated in Winchester. He married and had Frances, Elizabeth and a son Hugh born 1625. Hugh married Mary (possibly Palmer). Her gr-grandfather was Dionisius Palmer of Essex. Hugh Willis (b 1625) of Thane, Oxford, graduated from New College in 1656. Admon. P.C.C. 1683, had two sons Francis and Christopher. (Bird Chas. Willis and Richard Henry Willis claim in their "The Willis Family" p 13, that Hugh also had a son William Willis.)

FRANCIS WILLIS named in the above will as son of brother Henry deceased has not been found, as far as I can discover, in any other documentary record, unless he was the Francis Willis living in London in 1711, who brought suit in the following:

Order Bk. 5, p 268, Richmond Co., Va. Court of May 3, 1711. Action of detinue was brought in Court by Micajah Perry and FRANCIS WILLIS of the City of London in the Kingdom of Great Brittain vs Griffin Fauntleroy appearing in Court in possession of the estate of John Lloyd. Judgment was granted said Perry and Willis against said Fauntleroy and the Court ordered said Fauntleroy to deliver the estate as well as cattle, negroes, and household furnishings in his custody to sd. Perry and Willis and cost was added to the same.

In Old Rappahannock Records, p 35, Mary Fauntleroy, widow of Col. Moore Fauntleroy married William Lloyd before July 28, 1666. Mary and Col. Moore had a son William Fauntleroy who married Catherine Griffin. Their eldest son was Griffin Fauntleroy, born ca 1679/80.

Only two sons of this Francis Willis, to whom his uncle left land in Gloucester, are definitely known: Francis Willis b ca 1690 who married Lady Ann Rich and Col. Henry Willis, founder of Fredericksburg, Va.

In the Diary of William Byrd 1717-1721, he states that while in London in 1718 and 1719, he frequently visited a John Willis, whom he called "Jack", to whose wife a child was born 17 Feb. 1717/1718. On 7 Aug. 1718, he wrote: "I went to the Virginia Coffeehouse and from thence to Mr. John Willis' to dine, where I saw his brother, just come from Virginia." Mr. Prentiss Price, who has done much research on this Willis family, thinks this John Willis was a brother of Francis Willis who married Ann Rich and Henry Willis of Fredericksburg; hence he was a third son of Francis, son of the original Henry Willis. Mr. Geo. H. S. King, genealogist, is in possession of a record concerning a John Willis in London in 1755, which doubtless refers to this "Jack" Willis or his child born 1718.

As stated above, there are several reasons to believe the

John Willis who first appears in South Carolina in 1750 was a son of this Henry Willis, grandson of the first Henry Willis, deceased in 1689.

Much is known of Henry Willis, of Fredericksburg, Va. In the Encyclopedia of Virginia Biography, Vol. 1, p 360, "Col. Henry Willis, son of Francis Willis, of Oxfordshire and brother of Francis Willis (q.v.), was representative for Gloucester Co. in the House of Burgesses 1718 and 1723, and for Spotsylvania Co. in 1740. He was founder of Fredericksburg in 1727."

Henry Willis married three times to widowed cousins: (1) Ann Alexander, widow of John Smith, issue one Smith child; (2) Mildred, born Lewis (as proved by Prentiss Price), widow Howell and widow Brown with one Howell child; and (3) Mildred Washington, widow Gregory with three Gregory daughters. The second-son-by-the-name-John was son of his second wife, Mildred Lewis-Howell-Brown-Willis.

(William and Mary Quarterly (1) No. 6 (July 1897-April 1898) p 208: concerning Mildred Willis, 2nd wife of Henry, (Footnote) "In the Index to the cases in the General Court in 1724, is the case 'John Brown and Mildred, his wife, Charles Lewis and Mary his wife, residuary legatees of John Howell, Gent, deceased, vs Gawin Corbin and John Lewis Junr. Gent.' It is known that Charles Lewis married Mary Howell, and were not Mary Lewis and Mildred Brown daughters of John Howell? In 1732, Henry Willis, of Spotsylvania, gent. and Mildred his wife, late widow of John Brown, whose will was dated 8th Sept. 1726, are mentioned in the York records. In Bruton parish churchyard is piece of a stone to the memory of John Brown, with the date 1726 upon it. Another stone is to the memory of Margaret Brown, who died in 1720, wife of Dr. Brown of Williamsburg (perhaps his first wife) late of Cold Stream, North Britain." "Mildred Howell who married William Lightfoot was probably her niece." (End of quote from W&M Quart.) Mr. Price has found that Mary Lewis and Mildred Brown were sisters-in-law, Mildred Lewis having married (1) John Howell, Jr., son of the above John Howell of the court record.

Marriages, p 212: Henry Willis and Mildred Brown were married the 30th Oct. 1726. (Note). This shows that Col. Willis married Mildred Brown about a month after the death of her 1st husband Dr. John Brown, of Williamsburg, who died Sept. 24, 1726.

Son John Willis was born the 16th of July 1728. (Bible).

P 206. In 1726, Henry Willis of Gloucester obtained a patent for land in Spotsylvania. When in 1727, Fredericksburg was laid out, he was one of the trustees. He lived at Willis' Hill now called Marye's Heights in Fredericksburg, Va.

From the manuscript of Col. Byrd Charles Willis, grandson of Col. Henry Willis of Fredericksburg, written about 1834, are the following excerpts (taken from the revision of "The Willis Family" by Byrd Charles Willis and Richard Henry Willis, made by Byrd Charles Willis II in 1909):

It begins, "'Tis said of my grandfather, Col. Henry Willis, of Fredericksburg, Va., that he courted his three wives when maids and married all when widows. He was a stout coarse man, perhaps I should have said blunt man, more likely to succeed with the latter than the former."

"When the second wife of my grandfather, Willis (Henry), died (she was the Widow Mildred Brown when he married her) my grandmother, then widow Gregory, wept immoderately upon hearing it. Upon someone remarking that it was strange she should grieve so much for a cousin, she replied that the death of her relation was not the sole cause of her grief, though she loved her dearly, as they were cousins and bore the same name, but she knew that old Harry Willis would be down there to see her, and she did not know what to do with him. The sequel showed she knew the man: in "a little month" the old cock sat himself down before her door, and commenced a regular siege; she held out for some time, but was compelled finally to capitulate, so that less than two months after the death of his second wife, Mildred Brown, he married Mildred (Washington) Gregory."

Copied from the family Bible of Col. Henry Willis ("The Willis Family", p 25), with marriages added:

Henry Willis and Ann Alexander (widow Smith), married Nov. 2, 1714.

Mary Willis born August 5, 1716, (m Hancock Lee in 1733).

Francis Willis born Oct. 12, 1718. d.s.p.

David Willis born December 17, 1720. d.s.p.

Henry Willis born September 22, 1722, (m Eliza Gregory in 1743, d 1749, no issue.)

John Willis born August 17, 1724, (m Elizabeth Madison. He d March 5, 1750, one daughter.)

Robert Willis born March 12, 1725, d.s.p.

Henry Willis married Mildred (Howell) Brown, widow, October 30, 1726.

John Willis born July 16, 1728, (m "Nannie").

Elizabeth Willis born January 12, 1729, (m Jasper Whiting Clayton, Tyler's Vol. 8, p 141).

Ann Willis born September 14, 1731, (m Duff Green, moved to Ky.)

Isabell Willis born June 10, 1733, (m Howell Lewis, moved to N.C.)

Henry Willis married Mildred (Washington) Gregory, widow, January 5, 1733/4.

Lewis Willis born November 11, 1734.

Mildred (Washington) Willis died September 5, 1747. She was born 1695/6.

Henry Willis was born ca 1691/2 and died September 14, 1740.

On page 11 of this "The Willis Family", Byrd Chas. Willis makes the sweeping statement that "Col. Henry Willis' sons by the first and second wives died without male heirs." This is similar to the number of times I have found in Historical publications where Rowland Thornton died without issue. Yet in Deed Bk. 4, King George Co., Va., p 441, there is recorded a deed from Francis Thornton Aug. 6, 1760, to John Fitzhugh, of 300 acres "purchased by Rowland Thornton, father of the said Francis Thornton." Families frequently, in those days, lost tract of sons who moved away to another county or state. Mary Dangerfield, daughter of John and Elizabeth Madison Willis inherited the John Smith estate of "Burton" through John's mother Ann Alexander Smith.

Certainly John Willis, wife "Nannie", who moved to South Carolina, had several children, as I will try to show.

Exhibited in the suit papers, Daingerfield vs Yates, File 566, Fredericksburg District Court and discovered by Mr. George King, genealogist of Fredericksburg, is the following:

Will of Colonel Henry Willis of Fredericksburg, Virginia:

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. I Henry Willis sick and weak but in perfect sence do make this my last will.

Imprimis: I give my soul into the hands of Almighty God who gave it me and altho a miserable sinner yet thro the merits and intercession of my blessed Saviour and Redeemer I hope to Inherit everlasting life.

Item: I give unto my beloved wife Mildred Willis all the lands I bought of Robert Buckner (except that which is betwixt the branch on which Mrs. Gibson lives and the river) during her natural life.

Item: I give the said land after her decease unto my son Lewis Willis to him and the heirs of his body lawfully begotten forever and on failure of such issue to my son Henry Willis to him and his heirs forever.

Item: I give to my daughter Elizabeth my negro Girl Rachel.

Item: I give to my daughter Anne my negro Girl Phillis.

Item: I give to my daughter Isabella my negro Girl Nell, but my will and desire is that my loving wife have the use of the said two negro girls Rachel and Phillis during her natural life.

Lastly I appoint my Honoured friend John Grymes, Esq: and my loving brother Francis Willis executors of this my last will giving full power to each of them separately to make an absolute right in fee to such person and persons as they shall

think proper to all or any part of my estate, humbly intreating them to take this troublesome office upon them that my debts may be paid and if any estate remain that they would dispose of it to my children in such manner as they shall think proper.

Witness my hand and seal this XXVII day of July 1740.

Henry Willis

SEAL

Signed, Sealed published and declared
in the presence of us:

August^t Washington
James Porteus
Thomas Wood

Humbly entreat my friends Col^o John Taliaferro, Major Francis Thornton also my son Henry Willis to be aiding and assisting my Executors in whatever they shall desire of them.

Hen: Willis

MEMORANDUM

The Garden lott purchased by Giles Cook and the lott adjoining purchased by Stonehouse. I would have deeds taken to myself and wife for our lives and then to Lewis Willis and his heirs forever the two lotts that were the Governors to myself during life and then to John the son of Henry and Mildred Willis to him and his heirs forever.

All the rest of my lotts to me and my heirs and in case of my death before the Execution of the said deeds to my Executors for the use of my Creditors.

There is one lott at the waterside by Roystons. Two where the new Ordinarys are build, Two where Gray lives, two where the warehouses are, two in the same square with Mr. Lee's, one back of them and one where I built the house by the race ground the lott called Sir John Randolph's I was never paid for he told me to sell it and take the money which I had not done when he died Sleets I have got deeds for. The lotts 47 and 48 the deeds are filled up to Mildred Willis for seven years, to Henry

Willis for life and to John Willis the son of Henry and Mildred Willis which I would have executed accordingly.

None of these things are mentioned in my will excepting that if it pleases God to have spared me I should have seen them executed next Court but as I find myself to grow worse every hour I express my desire that it may be annexed and counted part of my will.

Witness my hand this xxvii day of July 1740.

Hen: Willis

SEAL

Signed Sealed Published and Declared
in presence of us:

August^t Washington
James Porteous
Thomas Wood

VIRGINIA SC^t:

At a General Court held at the Capitol October the
31st 1740:

This will was presented in Court by John Grymes, Esquire, one of the Executors herein named and Henry Willis heir at law of the Testator appeared in Court and being an infant the Clerk of this Court was assigned his guardian to contest the proof hereof who on behalf of the said infant declared he had nothing to object to it whereupon the same together with the Codicil annexed was proved by the oaths of James Porteous and Thomas Wood two of the witnesses thereto who likewise deposed that they saw Augustine Washington the other witness subscribe his name as such and on the motion of the said Executor who made oath according to law Certificate was granted him for obtaining a probate in due form reserving liberty to Francis Willis, Gent: the other executor herein named to join in the probate when he shall think fit.

Teste

Gen: Waller, Clerk

A Copy

Teste

John Brown

C.G.C.

No slaves were named in this will, except Phillis, Nell and Rachel bequeathed to his daughters. Evidently, from the list given in his widow Mildred (Washington) Willis' inventory, his widow was to have use of the slaves during her life and then they were to be divided. Underscoring below indicates a partial distribution of the slaves and also contributes to proof that John Willis, who was in South Carolina in 1750, was the son of Col. Henry Willis, and Mildred, widow Brown (Broun), his second wife. Mr. Prentiss Price and Mr. King have proved that this second wife Mildred was the daughter of John Lewis and Elizabeth Warner, and, therefore, first cousin of his third wife Mildred Washington. Mildred married (1) John Howell and had one child; (2) Dr. John Brown of Williamsburg, no issue; and (3) Henry Willis, of Fredericksburg and had four children: John, Elizabeth, Ann and Isabel.

In Orange Co., Va., Bk. 2, p 146 on Mar. 22, 1749, the "Inventory of John Willis, elder son of that name of Henry Willis" lists the following slaves: Dick, Joe, Nerse, Walker, Guy, Peter, Daniel, Judy & child Rachel, Jenny & child Harry, Hannah, Old Jenny, Sarah, Jacob, Little Sarah, Major, Beck, Catherine, old Daphne, Will, London, Judith, Betty, Nanny, Jack, Dinah, Milley, Doll, Will and Lucy. (He probably received slaves from his mother's estate and from his wife. E.DeH.).

In the inventory of Henry Willis, son of Col. Henry Willis, Spotsylvania Court, Apr. 5, 1757, by John Thornton, the only negroes listed are: Mine Run Tom, Mary & young child, Pegga, Billy 10 yrs. old, Nella 14, Nann 6 yrs old and Jenny old wench. (Bk. B, Pt. 2, p 322). (He probably received slaves also from his mother's estate. E.DeH.)

Spotsylvania Will Bk. A (1722-1749), p 464, in the Appraisalment of the Estate of Mrs. Mildred Willis dec'd the

following negroes are listed: Patomack Tom, Long Tom, Sam, Joe, Chas., Robin, Peter, Mingo, Toby, Nell, Lucea, Young Toby, Young Moll, Nann, Valentine, Aggia, Molly, Betty, Gabriel, Venus, Christian, Young Venus, Billy, Jobe, Patt, Jack, Major, Panda, Dick, Milly, Philla, (Phillis?), Sue, Rachell, Kate, Phillo, Sarah, Nedd, Amos, Pegg, Jenny, Dick, Old Jenny, Dick, Alce and Harry, Feb. 8, 1747/8 by Henry Willis Gent. Bondsmen Richard Tutt, Rob. Jackson, Wm. Hunt & Chas. Dick.

It seems that the John Willis in Orangeburgh Dist. in 1774 was either John the second-son-by-that-name of Col. Henry Willis, or son of the said John Willis. In S.C., land was generally granted in 1750 at 50 acres per person in a family. The fact that John Willis received 250 acres of land, suggests that by 1752 he had slaves or small children. Certainly Robert Willis (1773-1844) was not his only son or grandson. There was a William Willis who married Mariah Anderson who died before 1790 in Orangeburgh Dist., who had at least three sons, William b. 1780, James and Isaac, who moved to Kentucky, but who "grew up in the Santee swamps of S.C." There was a Price Willis who received a grant of land in Granville Co. (which included Orangeburgh Dist.) of 150 acres 10 Jan. 1771, on Shier Creek, Branch of Long Cane (Vol. 22, p 519). He petitioned for it 4 Jan. 1769 (Vol. 21, p 580). Later brothers Price and Pearson Willis married sisters in Kentucky. A Henry Willis was born in this part of S.C. in 1796, and an Abram Willis was born "near where Williston was settled" in 1784 and moved to Cottageville, near Charleston, S.C. Some of these appear to have descended from the John Willis who sold slaves to William Strother and who received a grant of land in 1752. A Willis Williamson was in Marlboro Co., S.C. in 1797 as shown by a deed.

Charleston Records, Vol. 18 (1776-1784), p 212, Granville Co., Oct. 12, 1775, will of John Turner. Legatees: daughters Liddia Griffin, Cloey and Winna (Winnifred?); sons James, John, William, Jacob, Abraham, Enoch, Charles and Noel. Friend Ezekiel Williams and James Wilson Exrs. Witnesses: Lake Mizell, Michael M. Wallis and John Spar.

Winton Co., Bk. 1-A, p 26, June 9, 1788, Abraham Turner deeded to Jonas Griffin 400 acres in Winton Co. granted to

Abraham Turner June 5, 1786. Wits. William Green and John Turner.

When Henry Willis of Fredericksburg, Va., died in 1740, his son John was twelve years old and his guardian was John Thornton, husband of his step-sister Gregory. In Will Bk. "A", Spotsylvania County, under Guardian Bonds is: £ 150, John Thornton, guardian of John Willis, Jr., orphan of Henry Willis, with Francis Taliaferro, Sec., 7 June 1743. No further guardian accounts have been found. In his teens, John married "Nannie," and the last record of him in Virginia appears in two deeds of the same date recorded respectively in Culpeper and Spotsylvania counties in 1749. (Note: Mr. Geo. H. S. King claims to have found a record in Carolina Co. dated in the spring of 1750 as the last record of this John Willis in Va. I have not checked this reference to date. E.DeH.)

After a few other legacies, in his will recorded in Spots. Co. (Will Bk. "A", p 190) dated May 5, 1733, Robert Spotswood bequeaths all of his estate to John Willis "the son of Henry and Mildred Willis."

Those last two deeds of John and Nannie Willis, mentioned above, were: A deed recorded in Spotsylvania Co., Bk. D, p 181, as follows: dated 15 Aug. 1749, recorded 5 Sept. 1749, "John Willis (the younger son of that name of Col. Henry Willis dec'd) of the County of Culpeper" and Nannie his wife to John Stevens... ..for £ 270 curr...two tracts of land in Spots. Co., on Massaponax Run, one containing 200 acres, the other 1405 acres made by Collo. Henry Willis dec'd as by Deed of Gift to the sd. John Willis. Wits. Anthony Strother, Roger Dixon, Kemp Taliaferro, George Buckner, Thomas Slaughter. The other, also dated 15 Aug. 1749, recorded in Culpeper Co., Deed Bk. A, p 69, to the same John Stevens by John Willis "the younger son of that name etc." and Nannie his wife of Culpeper Co. mentioning only 400 acres of land "on both sides of Mt. Run....formerly sold to Robert Spotswood dec'd and by him devised to the said John Willis," for £ 107:10 current money of Virginia. Wits. Anthony Strother, Roger Dixon, Thomas Slaughter and John Covington. (Since wife Nannie signed her own name, she was evidently an educated young

woman. E.DeH.).

On the day preceding the date of the above deeds, August 14, 1749, William Strother, St. Mark's Parish, Culpeper Co., deeded to Wm. Pannill, 332 acres in Great Fork of the Rappa. River on the north side of the North Fork of Mt. Run, bounded in part by the tract of land granted to Augustine Smith containing 4000 acres, sold to Richard Buckner and Col. John Catlett "recourse being to me." Wits. Anthony Strother, Thomas Covington and Roger Dixon, Clk. Ordered recorded 17 Aug. 1749. (Deed Bk. A, p 29.)

On March 19, 1749, James Lesley, of South Carolina, leased to William Strother 300 acres of land situated in Craven Co. at the Congarees opposite to Saxe-Gotha township, bounded southward partly on land of William Howell, westward on Santee (otherwise Congaree River), northward by Thomas McPherson, eastward by land not yet laid out." Wits.: John Bracken, John (X) Wilson and John (X) Pearson. (Bk. LL, p 54, in Office of Mesne Conveyances, Charleston, S.C.). Recorded May 15, 1752.

In the South Carolina Room of the Charleston, S.C. County Library was found in "Inventories (1751-1754)" p 45, the inventory of William Strother "late of the Congarees presented by Mildred Strother and Charles Strother, May 23, 1751. Slaves named were: York, Tom, Goein, Sam, Denbo, Frank, Jack very old, Beck an old wench, Belinda, Judy and girl child, Dafney, Christian, Tenay and child, Nora and girl, Harry a boy, Stepney a boy and Charles. Signed by Philip Raiford and Thomas Howell and John Pearson. (Here John Pearson is shown as having signed his own name. Evidently father and son, since a deed was found reading "to John Pearson the elder, Blacksmith and planter").

William Strother Jr's. will has been found in the Equity Records of Fairfield Co., S.C., dated 1779, May 16, (Reel 188, Archives, Columbia), naming wife Catharine (Dargan, according to Laura B. Jones), sons Kemp. T. (Taliaferro), John D. (Dargan? and William and daughter Catherine. He bequeathed among other acres land that was "purchased from Jacob Swicord."

Green's History of Richland County, p 210. (Pub. 1932). Will Bk. 1771-1774, Charleston, p 275. Will of George Strother ("Of Congarees"). Date lost, filed in 1772. Wit: Philip Pearson, Nathan White, Catherine Reese. Ex: Anderson Thomas, James Thomas, John Hopkins. Much injured, but following names can be read: Kemp Strother, Sarah Hopkins, Anderson Thomas, James Thomas, Gabriel Gerrald, William Strother (brother), Lucy Kennerly (sister).

No purchase of land by John Willis could be found; but in re-reading the deed of 13 slaves sold by John Willis to William Strother, (Abstracted below), it might be assumed that John had bought land from Benjamin Singellton since the deed states, concerning the payment, that £ 1200 had been received in currency; £ 845 "assumed to Benjamin Singellton;" Bond of £ 1600 for security of Mr. Hugh Forrester for payment of £ 845 to Benjamin Singellton, recorded Jan. 9, 1752. Forrester was a state official. Recorded Jan. 9, 1752. Dated July 18, 1750. John Willis owed Singellton for something, probably for land, the deed of which was not recorded.

William Strother bought land from Thomas Singellton, according to the Index, and in 1760, William Strother II was granted land next to Richard Singellton. Hence all lived in the same neighborhoo.

Journals of Council from the 16th day of December In the Year of our Lord n/ig (?) to the 16th day of December 1750. The Humble Petn of John Willis was read to his Excellency and the Honble Members of his Majestys Council setting forth That your Petr is a setler in the Congrees (later Orangeburgh Dist. E.DeH) and hath 5 negroes for whom he never yet has had any Land or Warrant of Survey Granted him and being now desirous of cultivating and improving some of his Majestys Vacant Land in the Neighborhood of Ninety Six He therefore most Humbly Prays that your Excellency and Honors would be Pleased to Grant him an Order to the Dep. Secy to make out a warrant to the Survey^r Genl for admeasuring and laying out to your petr 250 acres of Land in the Neighnorhood of Ninety Six as afore-said.

The petitioner appearing and being sworn to the truth of what is set forth in his said petition the Prayer thereof was Granted and accordingly ordered that the Dept Secy do make out a warrant to the Surveyr Genl to lay out to the Petr 250 acres of Land as Prayd for. (Council Journal #4, p 74.)

In Plat Book #5, Pt. 2, p 358, is shown a rectangular plat of the above grant, with the following description: Pursuant to a Precept directed by George Hun (?) Esq. Sur: Genl dated Apl. 3d 1750 7 (sic) again prolonged Six months I have laid out unto John Willis a tract of land containing Two Hundred & fifty acres Situate lying and being on the South Side of Wateree River on a Branch called Rocky Creek, bounded on all sides by Vacent Land and hath such shape Form & Marks as the above Plat represents.

Certified by me Nov. 18, 1752

John Hamilton Dep. Sur.

In the Books of "Memorials" were the following:

Vol. 6, p 234, A Memorial exhibited by William Strother for a plantation of 300 acres situated on a Branch of Stephens Creek called Hard Labour being waters of the Savannah River bounded on all sides by vacant lands. 100 acres in a place called the Mill Leak or Shoals of Long Cane Creek. Surveyed 5 July 1763, granted 2 March 1764. George Strother D. S. (Deputy Surveyor).

Vol. 10, p 354, A Memorial exhibited by Price Willis of 150 acres on Spur Creek a branch on North West fork of Long Cane, next lands of Michael Blain Sr. and Josias Martin & vacant lands. Survey certified 7 Nov. 1770, granted 10 Jan. 1771, exhibited 25 Feb. 1771. Matt: Long D. S.

This land on Spur Branch which was granted to Price Willis was purchased by Robert Willis in 1817 from Littleton and William Turner--as shown elsewhere in the list of land acquired by Robert Willis--; hence Price Willis must have sold it after 1771. A record of Price Willis before 1790 has been found in Georgia; and in the 1800 census for Kentucky, a John Willis is found in Shelby County, Kentucky, on the Tax List 8/7/1800 (ref. Second census of Kentucky--1800, by G. Glenn Cliff, Asst. Sec.

Ky. Hist. Soc.). On Oct. 9, 1798, Nancy Willis married David Maddox in Shelby Co., Ky. In the list of Shelby County, Ky. Marriages appear: Pearson Willis married Elizabeth Standiford Feb. 17, 1814 and Price Willis m Hester Middleton Nov. 24, 1817 and two children of Pearson Willis later married Middletons. (Ky. Records).

The above names make me feel a strong possibility that Price Willis was a son of John and Nanny Willis born ca. 1748—the same John who came to South Carolina in 1750; and that possibly "Nanny" Willis was originally Nannie or Ann Price. You will note that one of the witnesses to the 1751 deed of John Willis was J. Pearson, a neighbor in Amelia township (Giessen-danner Record), so that John's son Price Willis might have married the daughter of Pearson around 1769 when Price Willis asked for 150 acres of land. Again we sorely need the old records of Orangeburgh Dist., S.C.

Vol. II, p 113, A Memorial exhibited by William Strother for 300 acres in Craven Co. on Fork of Wateree & Congaree rivers on a small branch called Toms Creek bounding S.E., & S.W. by Nathaniel and Joel Williams & Vacent Lands, on lands of John Gressett, Michael McCarly, Nicholas Currie & land called Pedlers Tract; N.W. by Moses Kirkland. Survey certified 14 Aug. 1771, granted 22 Nov. 1771, exhib. 14 Jan. 1772. Geo. Strother D. S.

In Vol. 6, p 43, George Strother showed 182 acres in Craven Co., 5 July 1763.

In Vol. 8, p 4, George Strother showed land in Berkeley Co., in Amelia Township, on Santee river, 6 Aug. 1765.

In Vol. 14, p 22, Charles Strother showed 100 acres on Edisto river, 1 May 1761.

In Vol. 14, p 23, Jeremiah Strother showed 500 acres on the Saluda river, May 1, 1761.

It is my understanding that for a short period under the Proprietors or shortly thereafter, grants of land were not

recorded, the Council then ordered that all such land that had not been recorded should be listed as Memorials.

In "Mortgages", Vol. VV, pp 224-225, John Willis "of Craven county, Province of South Carolina" for £ 150 paid by James Jarrell mortgaged a "negro wench named Phillis" on 22 May 1751. Witnesses: Chas. Strother & Mary Strother, recorded Oct. 19, 1751.

In the Miscellaneous Records of Charleston, S.C. (now in the Charleston County Library, Charleston) are the following deeds:

Bk. 78-B (1749-1751), p 521, "Know all men by these presents that I John Willis of Berkeley Co., In South Carolina for and in consideration of...paid by Hugh Forster of Craven Co. ...sell unto said Hugh Forster a negro man now in possession of Thomas Ridge att Caway Creek called Frank...8th May 1750. Wits: James Gill J.P. and J. Pearson.

Bk. 80-A (1751-1754), p 1, I John Willis of Craven Co. Planter for and in consideration of the sum of 255 pounds...truly paid by William Strather (sic) of the Congrees Plantation ...Bargain Sell and Deliver unto the said William Strother...one negro woman Slave Called Belinda....Wits: Stephen Crell Justice, recorded 18 May 1751, dated 2 Aug. 1750.

Bk. 80-A (1751-1754), p 154....I John Willis of Berkeley Co...for and in consideration of the sum of 1200 pounds...paid by William Strather (sic) of Craven Co. Planter...deliver the following negroes viz Dick Will Tom Yokely Harry Frank Gloster, York Sam Stepney Belindo Lucy Phillis Frank Nan to have and to hold...9th July 1750. Wits: James Gerald, Elleck Sandrew (X) Megrew and Thomas Gill, and Alexander McGrew. "Rec'd the day & year within written of the within named Will^m Strather the Sum of twelve hundred pounds Curr^t money that's to say the sum of Eight hundred forty five pounds assumed to Benjamin Singellton & bond of Sixteen hundred pounds Conditioned for & to Indemnify & keep harmless Mr. Hugh Forster Security for the payment of the aforesaid Eight hundred forty five pounds and the ballance in

Account I say Rec'd." Recorded Jan. 9, 1752. (This deed was mentioned above, showing that land might have been bought by John Willis from Benj. Singellton or Hugh Forester).

Bk. 80-A, p 203...I John Willis of Craven Co.....sold unto Wm. Newitt Edwards...2 horses....25 Jan. 1751. Wits: John Scott and John (X) Black.

In South Carolina Land Grants, Vol. 7, pt. 2, p 358, on Nov. 18, 1752, John Willis was granted 250 acres of land on Rocky Creek of the Wateree river, a creek which was at that time, according to the map of Mouzon made in 1775, made a deep V down into the corner of Orangeburgh District, S.C., next to Ninety Six District. (Note this grant given above).

After 1769 after which time the old counties of S.C. were abolished and the State divided into districts, the records were no longer kept in Charleston, but in the chief town of each district. Orangeburgh District records were kept in the Court House in Orangeburg town, until after 1780, when these districts were subdivided into Counties. The Orangeburg Court House, with all of its records, was burned by Genl. Sherman's soldiers in 1865. They also burned 30 Willis houses around Williston, where our Robert Willis and his family settled. Bibles, deeds, wills, everything was destroyed except a few odd pieces of furniture and six silver teaspoons, the Hallmarks of which show them to have been made in Philadelphia about 1778. Hence it is impossible to trace this John Willis further through documentary records, wills and deeds.

There is only one more record, as follows: (Misc. Records, Vol. SS, Pt. 2, p 283, Archives, Columbia, S.C.)
South Carolina

Orangeburgh Dist. Personally appeared before me John Parkinson Esq. one of the Justices assigned to keep the Peace in said Dist. Jacob Swicord Senr. who being duly Sworn says that he & several others being at a horse Race below the Old Three Runs nigh to John Willis In the fall of the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven hundred & Seventy four, that on the Race Ground... ..etc....Signed by Jacob Swicord. Sworn before me this 24th Nov. 1778, John Parkinson. John Willis was, therefore, alive in 1774

and probably in 1778. He was not in Orangeburgh Dist. in the 1790 census. He died between 1778 and 1790, probably soon after 1783 for there is neither will nor administration recorded for him in Barnwell Co., Orangeburgh Dist., where the Old Three Runs is located. It was in this same region that Robert Willis bought 1700 acres of land in 1817-1818, possibly land that had partially belonged to his father.

Tradition states that the mother of Robert Willis as a widow married Richard Johnson, of Turkey Creek, Edgefield Dist., S.C. Robert was with Richard Johnson in 1790 as shown by Robert's witnessing a deed between Richard Johnson Jr. and Richard Johnson, Sr. together with Richard Sr's son Moore. (Edgefield Co. D. B. 7; p 91). Later the administration papers of Moore Johnson show that Robert Willis was "at his bedside" at the time of Moore's death.

In "The History of Orangeburg County, South Carolina, From Its First Settlement to the Close of the Revolutionary War," by A. S. Salley, Jr., Orangeburg, S.C., R. Lewis Berry, Printer, 1898, copied by Laura B. Jones and E. DeH., appears the following:

THE GIESSENDANNER RECORD

Record of marriages, births and deaths, kept by the Rev. John Ulrick Giessendanner and his successor, the Rev. John Giessendanner (a nephew), from 1737 to 1761 in the townships of Amelia and Orangeburg. The Giessendanners were ordained Lutheran ministers, natives of Switzerland: later Church of England.

Amelia Township was part of Orangeburg--being one of the townships laid out for the encouragement of emigration on the county (as per Miss Janie Revill's compilation of Protestant Immigrants to S.C.). Her work covers the Council Journals from 1763 to 1773, but she did not include any except those coming directly from overseas on a ship and receiving passage money &c. as a bounty, so neither John Willis nor Strothers appear in her work.

BAPTISMS

p 139.

(163.) On Sunday June 17th, 1753, In Amelia

Mary Ann, Daughter of Conrad & Mary Ann Halman; born May 14th, 1753.

Susceptr. Caspar Brown, Maria, wife of Joseph Festner, and Regina, wife of John Willis.

p 156

On Sunday September 14th 1755, in Amelia

(288.) John, Son of John & Eugenia Millis (Willis?); born July 21st 1755. Sucept. Edward & Margaret Barwick, and Thomas Barwick.

p 172

(428.) On Sunday Octobr. 9th 1757 in Amelia Chappel

Thomas, Son of John & Anne Millis (Willis?); born June 10th 1757. Suret. Alexander & Isabel Tate, & William Thomson.

Eodem Die et Locc:

(429.) Joseph, Son of Conrad & Mary Ann Halman; born Sept. 8th, 1757. Suret: Caspar Brown, Joseph Festner & Regina, wife of Adam Willis. (John?)

p 191

Sunday April 13th 1760 In Amelia Chappel

(623.) Catharine, Daughter of Will.m & Catharine Strother, born Feby. 28th 1760. Surets. John Davis, Dorcas Milner and Elizabeth Dargan.

(Note by LBJ: William Strother, d. after 1779 (will in Rich-land Equity) married by 1761, Catharine Dargan, daughter of Timothy Dargan with will in Charleston.)

p 178

(508.) On Sunday Sept. 10th. In Amelia Chappel. Jane,

Daughter of Thomas and Fanny Curtise: born Feb. 7th 1757.

Suret. John & Fanny Millis, and Katherine Ballintine. (I believe the old minister was a bit careless about names. In another entry for 1757, he baptized the son of John and Anne Millis. He gives "Regina"--perhaps a contraction of Eugenia--

as wife of John Willis in 1753 and as wife of Adam Willis in 1757. In 40 years of collecting Willis data, nowhere else have I found an Adam Willis of that era, nor the surname Millis. E.DeH.). There was also in the Amelia Chappel records birth of a daughter to John and Mary Raiford Pearson.

p 152

(261.) In Orangeburgh Church, Baptized, Sunday March 2nd Mary, Daughter of Philip & Elizabeth Jennings. Born Dec. 31, 1754. Suscep: Gavin & Margaret Pou, and Barbara wife of John Jennings.

Whether Barbara Jennings died and John remarried or this is another mistaken name by Rev. Giessendanner, is not known; but in 1768 in connection with the settlement of the estate of a Dubarque, John Jennings is shown as having married the daughter Mary Dubarque and that John and Mary Jennings were then "residing in the Island of Bermuda." (Misc. Records, Charleston, Vol. 91/A, p 71.)

John & Philip Jennings leased and released land in Orangeburgh 23 Jan. 1749 and Dec. 22, 1750. In Vol. 95 Misc. Records, p 195, Qualified Isaac Harleston to Administer on the Estate and Effects of John Jennings (sic) dec'd, November 11, 1774. John Jennings either returned from the Bermudas or retained land in South Carolina.

During this period of South Carolina history, women died young, often in child birth. John Willis' wife Nannie might have died soon after moving to South Carolina and he married a second and perhaps a third time.

In the Census for 1790 the following are listed:
In Orangeburgh Dist. (South Part)

Robert Willis with 1 male over 16 and 2 females.

In Camden Dist., Richland Co.

John Willis, with 1 male over 16, 2 males under 16 and 3 females. No further records of him found. Could have been a son of John Willis, of Orangeburgh Dist. (1774-1778).

In Cheraw Dist.

John Willis, with 2 males over 16, 2 males under 16 and 1 female with 3 slaves.

In Ninety-Six Dist., Edgefield Co.

Robert Willis, with 1 male over 16, 5 males under 16, 3 females and 2 slaves. (This Robert Willis had a son named Mesheck who moved to Tennessee before 1808. He must have been of the group of Willises in Lunenburg Co., Virginia.

From the Kershaw Deeds in microfilm, Archives, Columbia, S.C.:

B-525

John x Willis of Richland Co., S.C. Blacksmith to Samuel Mathis of Camden Atty. at law, for £ 20, 100a in Camden District on Horsepen Branch, waters of Wateree River, on the Road from Camden to Congaree originally granted to Aaron Ayers 3 April 1786. 5 Dec. 1795.

Wit. Thomas Dinkins

Lamuel Whitaker

Proved 5 Dec. 1795 by Thomas Dinkins before Robert Marion, J.P.
Received in Office 23 Feb. 1796.

B-529

6 March 1790, Aaron Ayers of Fairfield County to John Willis Blacksmith of same place, for £ 30, 100 acres (as above)

/ Francis Martin

William Wells

John Alking

Recd. in office 23 Feby. 1796. Proved in Fairfield County
6 March 1790 before Isaac Love, J.P. by Francis Martin.

Index also shows: 1797 Willis, John and Hannah to Wm. Elkins, BB-177, but Deed Bk. BB was not in microfilm.

= Index to Richland County Judge of Probate shows no early Willis.

The above John could not have been the John Willis of Orangeburg Dist., who signed his name without a mark.

Notes from the Dept. of Archives, Columbia, S.C.: From the Book of Indents, "Pursuant to an Ordinance of the Gen'l Assembly passed the 28 March 1778, we the Commissioners of the Public Treasury Do certify, that we have rec'd into the Treasury from Mr. John Willis of Bermudas 8000 Pounds currency as a loan to the State, 19 March 1779. Interest yearly £ 560, No. 505, Book "P". Signed by William Parker and John McCall.

Sub Entree to Indents for Revolutionary Claims, Bk. B, p 3, No. I. Bk. B. Issued to Capt. John Williss (sic) the 3rd June 1783 for 165 Pounds for the Principal and Interest of his Indent No. 505, Bk. P. Granted the 19th March 1779 currency. (Note: no statement that John Willis was still "of the Bermudas." E.DeH.)

No. 33 (Indent) £ 4:17:1 $\frac{1}{2}$, A. III Lib. V, July 22nd 1785, John Willis his account of 68 days duty done in the Militia as Private (elsewhere it stated that he was "private in N.C.") at currency per day in 1782. Signed J. McCall. Rev. Record 8604. Perhaps the John Willis in Fairfield Co. in Census for 1790.

I wrote to Bermuda for additional data and this was the reply I received:

Archives Office,
P. O. Box 432
Hamilton, Bermuda,
1st September, 1961

Mrs. E. Willis DeHuff,
Augusta, Georgia, U. S. A.

Dear Madam,

Our records are far from complete for the purpose of giving all the details asked for in your letter. It would appear that the Willis family were located chiefly in the parish of Somerset one of the main islands of which Bermuda is comprised. A search of the available baptismal records has not, as yet, revealed the date of birth of John Willis.

A will of Charles Willis of Sandys Tribe (Somerset), a mariner, made in 1755 mentions four children among whom is JOHN.

This may well be the ancestor whom you seek. One baptismal entry relating to an infant Jane, daughter of John and Catharine Willis of Somerset, probably relates to the same man - the date of birth of Jane is given as 12th November, 1760.

In view of the fact that England and her American colonists were engaged in the exercise of the military and naval arts against each other it is hardly likely that John Willis, having lent 8000 pounds to the State of Carolina, would have found Bermuda entirely to his liking when peace came. It is to be admitted that some English gunpowder from the magazine at St. George's (Bermuda) through the connivance of some Bermudians found its way into Washington's hands but the hue and cry afterwards, together with the subsequent watchfulness of authority, did not permit another such traffic. I am inclined to think that John Willis, since there is no record of his death here (this does not imply finality - see paragraph one), with the loan as argument, chose the United States for his resting place.

Yours faithfully,
(signed) H. G. Middleton
Archivist

During the pre-revolutionary period there was strong dissension between those in favor of the English Government and those opposed, and many men, escaped to Florida, the Bahamas and the Bermudas. If neighbors--or even one neighbor, John Jennings--of John Willis decided to move to the Bermudas, and if the fever-infested swamp of the Congaree caused deaths in his family, possibly deaths of his wives and babies, John Willis might easily have moved to the Bermuda Islands also. By 1765, John Willis' (the second-son-by-that-name-of Henry Willis, of Fredericksburg) oldest children still living would have been in their teens and might not have wanted to go to Bermuda. They, then, would have remained in South Carolina with neighbors or with overseers in charge of the plantations. Boys and girls with stepmothers frequently married young. John Willis, himself, married in his teens. If Price Willis (as I believe) was the oldest son of John Willis he was born in 1748, having attained the age of 21 years when he asked for a grant of land in 1769.

Having property and children in South Carolina, it could

well have been this same John Willis, son of Henry Willis who made a loan to the State of South Carolina, as being "of the Bermudas," because in returning to America, he liquidated possessions he had acquired in Bermuda and loaned money from the Bermudas to the state of S.C. He probably returned sometime before the money came to the state. As the Archivist of those Islands suggests, John Willis probably returned to Orangeburgh Dist., South Carolina, where he died before 1790.

John Willis might or might not have gone to live for a while in the Bermudas; but it is certain that he was in Amelia Township, with the Strothers, from 1750-1757 and that either he himself or a son John Willis was in Orangeburgh District 1774-1778, and no John Willis was in Orangeburgh Dist. in 1790, according to the census. This John Willis in Orangeburgh Dist. in 1778 was, in my opinion, the father of Robert Willis born during the Spring of 1773.

I believe, from all of the foregoing that we can assume that John Willis and William Strother lived in the same neighborhood in 1750, both being in Amelia township along the Congaree river, which later was included in Orangeburgh District, S.C. Jacob Swicord also lived near and sold his land to Strother. Fairfield Deed Bk. C, p 152, Jacob Swekart (sic) of Granville Co., S.C. Planter unto William and Richard Strother of St. Marks Parish planters land containing 450 acres in Craven Co. on Broad River, recorded 8 July 1788, dated 1 Jan. 1788. In the Memorial, p 113, William Strother's land was bounded on the northwest by land of Moses Kirkland.

Edgefield County, Deed Bk. 13, p 271, the Administrators of Michael Watson (father of Keziah Watson Willis, E.DeH.) deeded to Jacob Odom (step-father of Keziah after 1785, E.DeH.) 125 acres in 1788.. "part of land granted to William Watson dec'd father to the aforesaid Michael Watson...bounded by land surveyed for Moses Kirkland, John Anderson & William Watson. Wits. Samuel Satcher & Henry King.

Edgefield Co., Deed Bk. 7, p 91, On April 24, 1790, Robert Willis (our Robert, E.DeH.) and Moor (sic) Johnson are two witnesses to a deed from Richard Johnson, Jr. to his father Richard

Johnson, Sr., for 200 acres at head of Turkey Creek, "Whereon Moses Kirkland formerly lived and Richard Johnson Sr., now lives."

Edgefield Co., Deed Bk. 13, p 171, On April 13, 1796, Richard Johnson, Sr., deeded to Robert Willis planter, 200 acres on Turkey Creek for £ 50 sterling. Plat is shown--the same land as above, originally land of Moses Kirkland, where Johnson was then living.

Robert Willis deeded the same 200 acres to Henry Anderson for \$100 on Sept. 12, 1808. (Bk. 29, p 297).

Robert Willis, having been described as a "planter" in the above deed from Richard Johnson, Sr. to himself and then selling this land that he bought twelve years later, indicates that he had at least one other piece of property where he lived before the purchase and after the sale, for he married about 1795. Since these are the first deeds recorded for him, he must have inherited some nearby land, perhaps in adjoining Barnwell Co., the acquisition of which, recorded between 1769 and 1785 was burned. According to the deposition of Jacob Swicord in 1778, John Willis was near the Race Tract not too far from the Old Three Runs, which is in Barnwell Co.

The old Mouzon map of South Carolina drawn in 1775 shows a large Rocky Creek, making a V down into the northwest corner of Orangeburgh Dist., immediately next to Ninety-Six Dist., as mentioned before, and then flowing northeast into the Wateree river. John Willis was granted land upon that Rocky Creek in 1750, probably along the "Branch" or creek as it flowed through Orangeburgh Dist. This is not far from Turkey Creek nor Long Cane branch.

In the Cross Index to Deeds, Barnwell Co. Court House are:
Robert Willis from Benj. Odom for \$100, 104a, Yarrow Branch, L, 371, 12/19/1817, 8/2/1855.

Robert Willis from Joshua Corley, \$400, 384a, South Edisto, L, 373, 2/11/1817, 8/2/1819.

Robert Willis from Littleton & Wm. Turner, \$600, 400a, Spur Branch, L, 374, 12/20/1817, 8/2/1819.

Robert Willis from Bolen Deas, \$420, 300a, Yarrow Branch,

L, 376, 11/12/1817, 8/2/1819.

Robert Willis from Howell McLemore, \$900, 500a, by Peter Usery, L, 378, 11/28/1818, 8/2/1819.

Also there was a deed from Mary Ann and Loren Moseley to John Turner Willis for the "White Pond Tract" for \$900 on June 16, 1838 and Mar. 6, 1843.

Robert Willis married about 1795 Keziah Watson, daughter of Michael Watson and Martha Watson. Michael was the son of William Watson and Martha was the daughter of John Watson. They lived near Ridge Spring, S.C. Robert and Keziah's children were:

1. Perhaps Sarah Willis, b about 1796. (Mrs. Clara Kitchens Givens, of Williston, S.C., has an old gold breast pin which originally belonged to Keziah Watson Willis and has been "passed down to the eldest daughter" of each succeeding generation. It belonged to Antoinette Weeks, oldest daughter of Sarah Willis Boylston; thence to her oldest daughter Alifair Weeks Johnson; thence to Emeline Johnson Porter; to Mittie Porter Kitchens and is now in the possession of Clara Kitchens Givens.) Sarah Willis married George Boylston and had: 1. Robert, 2. Judson, 3. Martha m. John Mixon, 4. Antoinette m. Gus Weeks, and 5. Joanna m. Jim Fanning.
2. John Turner Willis, b Aug. 20, 1798, d. Jan. 20, 1844, m 1819 Laura Ann ("Nancy") Head, b April 3, 1802, d about 1863. Children: 1. William Allen Willis, b Apr. 4, 1820, d Jan. 1852, m Apr. 20, 1841 Mary Annis Elizabeth Ashley; 2. John Ancel Willis b Oct. 7, 1821; 3. David Wellington Willis b Aug. 24, 1823 m Lina Walker; 4. James Head Willis, b July 10, 1825 m Elizabeth Nolan; 5. Sarah Elizabeth Willis b June 6, 1827 m Gillespie; 6. Matilda Ann Willis b Oct. 6, 1828; 7. Robert Furman Willis b March 20, 1830 (known as "Long Bob" while his cousin Robert Moore Willis was "Short Bob", m Jane Keziah 1st cousin, dau. of Michael; 8. Bunion Haseltine Willis b Dec. 12, 1831 m Ellen, dau. of Michael; 9. Keziah Rebecca Willis b May 20, 1833 (named for her two grandmothers) m Patrick Vardell Willis; 10. Elizabeth Ann Willis

b Jan. 29, 1836 m A. P. Bogachi; 11. Frances Emeline Willis b March 20, 1838 m Moses Matthews; 12. John Turner Willis b July 5, 1841 m (1) Kate Burns of Charleston, m (2) Rosa Faust.

3. Elijah Willis, b probably 1800, no legitimate heirs. His will recorded in Barnwell Co., Will Bk. D, Vol. 2, p 270 (1826-56) names brothers Robert M. Willis, Williamson Watson Willis; George Boilston and Sarah his wife; Winnifred Lott wife of Jesse Lott; Mrs. Ann Willis wife of John T. Willis dec'd; Michael Willis my brother; Samuel Reid and Matilda his wife; William F. Matthews and Martha his wife; Keziah A. (Antoinette) Phillips wife of Hughey Phillips; and Ellen Fanning wife of Patrick Fanning (my sisters); and Patrick V. Willis.
4. Martha Willis, b prob. 1802, m William F. Matthews. Children: 1. Robert m Rosina Eubank; 2. Keziah m. Nat. Miller; 3. Moses m his 1st cousin Francis dau. of John Turner Willis; 4. Josephine m H. M. Thompson from Scotland; 5. William m Sarah Seigler; 6. Elijah and 7. Budd Cade, both killed in War Between the States; 8. Patrick m Mary Barr; 9. Jacob Pope m Julia Hickson; and 10. Watson Williamson m Ann Mary Hogg.
5. Winnifred Willis, b prob. 1804, m (1) Nathan Porter and had Stanmore Porter, m his cousin Emeline Johnson, and Keziah Porter, m Wm. Kitchens and grew to weigh 341 lbs. When she went for visits with her brother Stanmore, he would drive his "spring wagon" to her porch, back it up so that she could step over to sit in the wagon body. Winnifred m (2) Jesse Lott and had Winifred and Haxeltine; and m (3) a Keenan.
6. Robert Moore Willis, b Sept. 1, 1806, d 1849, m 1829 Susan McCreary. Children: 1. Susan Ann m 1st cousin Robert Moore Willis, son of W. Watson Willis; 2. Theodosia Allston m Preston Harley; 3. Ellen Elizabeth m her step-brother John James Johnston; 4. Katherine m (1) Jack Harley and (2) a Morris.
7. Williamson Watson Willis b 1808, d after 1850 m Charity Johnson, daughter of Moore Johnson. said to have been his

"half-first-cousin"; children: 1. Robert Moore m. Susan Ann Willis (above); 2. Williamson Watson Jr. m Celestia Stedman of Aiken; 3. Laura.

8. Michael Willis, b 1810, d Aug. 1892, m (1) Mary Reed and (2) Rachel Mack. Children: 1. Elijah Reed m Lucretia Johnson; 2. Jane Keziah m 1st cousin Robert Willis, son of John T.; 3. Ellen m 1st cousin Hazeltine, son of John T.; 4. Rosina m Hogg; Viola m Greene; Selena m Wesley Graham, and Sylvia.
9. Possibly a James G. Willis born 1812, who died young.
10. Cyrena Willis b Aug. 4, 1814, m Watson Perry, of Edgefield. Her tombstone states: she "died July 25, 1835 / aged 20 yrs. 11 months 21 days."
11. Matilda Willis, b Sept. 9, 1815, d Nov. 26, 1865, m Feb. 16, 1832 Samuel Reid, Children: 1. Tully; 2. Elijah; 3. Anna m Burr; 4. Cyrena m Henry Milhous; 5. Adella m Samuel Prioleau Chisholm; 6. Jerome J. m Chisholm; 7. Martha Jane m Ray; 8. Emeline Antoinet m Nathan Walker; Robert Hugh died aged 10; Ellen F. m Charles Rice; 11. Samuel, Jr.; 12. Rosa m Banks.
12. Patrick Vardell Willis, b 1817, d 1891, m (1) Rebecca Keziah Willis, dau. of John T. Willis. Children: 1. Nancy Keziah m Wm. Buckner Grimes; 2. Mary Ann ("Missie") m T. J. Stewart; 3. Robert Vardell m Martha McKinley; 4. John Clarence m Whitlow Burrough; 5. James Turner m Ann Crew ; 6. Patrick Barnwell m Lena Hogue; 7. Harmon D. Patrick V. married (2) Mary Jane Byrd, children: 8. William Pleasant m Elmore; 9. Thomas Brooke m Eula Burrough; 10. Marie Antoinette ("Carrie") b 6 Feb. 1867 (still living) m Evans; 11. Frances Tea m Will Houck; 12. Harriet m J. C. Wallis; 13 Myrtle m Clyde Houck.
13. Keziah Antoinette Willis, b Aug. 21, 1819 m Hugh I. Phillips, Children: 1. Mary m Jeff Harvey; 2. Laura m Tom Hankinson; 3. Melvin m Virginia Hickson; 4 & 5. John and William who

1899092

moved to Louisiana.

14. Ellen Willis b about 1821 m James Patrick Fanning and had four children: 1. James Fanning m his cousin Joanna Boylston; 2. a daughter m a Knight and two others (unknown to me. E.DeH.).

Following is the full text of the will of Robert Willis copied by Elizabeth DeHuff in Columbia, S. C. in Dept. of Archives: "Though laboring at this time under affliction I am never the less of Sound Mind & Memory. & knowing that it is appointed unto all men once to Die, I Robert Willis of the State & District aforesaid Doo make this my Last will & testament in manner & form following & first I would commit my Soul to God who gave it & I here with observe that where as all my children except my two youngist Dauters have had a part of my estate some more and some less as I shall hereafter Discribe to the best of my recollection having not kept an accurit account, & it is my will that the amount that each of my heirs has recd shall go for so much of their part of my estate when there is a Jeneral Devition made of my property which will not be until after the death of myself & wife & I will here observe that it is my will, that all my property real & personal should remain in the hands of my belov,d wife provided she is the longist liver for her own use & benefit with full power to carry on business the same as when I was alive excipt what property I herein will to my two youngist Daughters, of which I will now Discribe that is to say to my Daughter Antonet I give the following negroes a young woman cald Cate & girle named tuner & one boy named Wade all to be for hir with their increase & to be heird by the heirs of hir Body for ever i allso will that should my Daughter Antonet marry in my beloved wifes lifetime that she should have five cows & calves or yearling & a fifty Dollar horse & one bed & bedstead, & to my Daughter Ellen I give one negro woman & child named Harriott & mug allso one negro girl named hester & one boy named Charles & the same amount of other property as is named above to hir Sister Antonet, & on the condition that they shall by hirs & hir heirs after hir & my will further is that if either of my Single Daughters does marry & Die with out isue that their property shall be returnd back to my estate, & I give to my

Daughter Matilda Reed one negro Boy exclusive of what she formerly had namd Sam, & which is to hir & hir heirs for ever-- & I here want it understood that if my beloved wife Keziah Willis shall think proper she has power to let any of my heirs have any property left in her hand During her life She will have power to let them take it at a fair valuation as so much paid towards their respective parts. I now proceed to name the different amounts that has been paid to my older children to wit.,

Jas G. Willis.	one thousand Dollars	\$1000
(should be Jno. T. Willis. There was no James G. known by anyone. The adm. papers show that \$1000 was advanced to John T. Willis. E. DeH.)		
Elijah Willis	six hundred Dollars	600
Robt. M. Willis	six hundred Dollars	600
Williamson W. Willis	five hundred Dollars	500
Winney Lott	six hundred Dollars	600
Martha Matthews	five hundred Dollars	500
Sarah Boyston	five hundred Dollars	500
Matilda Reed	seven hundred Dollars	700
Patrick V. Willis	nine hundred Dollars	900
Michael Willis	one thousand \$32	1032

each of my heirs with the amounts here charged shall be entitled to equal share and share alike in my estate after the Death of my beloved wife both of the real and personal, my beloved wife is hereby authorised to collect all out stand monies that may be Due me or to come Due for the support of hir self & family it must be recollected that the above property which is givin to my two youngest Daughters I consider to be worth each one thousand Dollars which is the amount as so much of their Respective shares at the final Settlement of my estate, my gold watch I leave to my Beloved son Robt. M. Willis, & should either of my two youngist Daughters marry after my Death & have a Disire to Settle on any part of my lands, my belovd wife shall have power to have five hundred acres Laid out to them for a settlement at a fair Valuation by some Disintrusted persons of the Neighbourhood say two or three & I appoint my beloved Sons Elijah Willis & Robt. M. Willis executors to this my Last will to settle of the affairs

of my estate after the Death of my belovd wife & to assist hir while she may live given under my hand this 23 of December & in the Sixty-eighth year of the independence of the United States of America.

Robt. Willis

(Will Bk. D, p 54, Barnwell Co., S. C.)

Robert Moore Willis administered his father's estate and the following is copied from a part of these papers in Bundle 87 in the Barnwell County Court House, beginning with page 2:

	Amount brought forward	\$42,549.81
1849	Dr.	
Jany 1	To Balance due Estate this day	\$42,549.81
" "	" Int. on Balance from date	
	to 1st March 49	<u>49.64</u> \$42,599.45

From which deduct commissions	
when paid out @ $2\frac{1}{2}$	1,164.69
Balance in Estate and	<u>\$41,523.27</u>
From which also deduct Legacy	
to H. E. Phillips wife	50.20
Amount to be distributed	<u>\$41,473.27</u>

It appears that the Testator left Twelve children entitled to a distributive interest in his Estate, they will therefore take as follows:

John T. Willis will take $1/12$	
which is	\$ 3456.10 7/12
Robert M. Willis will take $1/12$	
which is	3456.10 7/12
Elijah Willis will take $1/12$	
which is	3456.10 7/12
W. W. Willis will take $1/12$	
which is	3456.10 7/12
Winney Lott will take $1/12$	
which is	3456.10 7/12
Martha Mathews will take $1/12$	
which is	3456.10 7/12

Sarah Boylston will take	
1/12 which is	3456.10 7/12
Matilda Reed will take	
1/12 which is	3456.10 7/12
P. V. Willis will take	
1/12 which is	3456.10 7/12
Michael Willis will take	
11/12 which is	3456.10 7/12
Antoniet Willis will take	
1/12 which is	3456.10 7/12
Ellen Willis will take	
1/12 which is	3456.10 7/12
	<u>\$41,473.27</u>

Advancements made by Testator in his lifetime

1849	To John T. Willis - - - - -	\$ 1000.00
March 1	" Int. on advancement from	
	24 Nov. 1845 to date	258.43
"	" To Robert M. Willis - - - - -	600.00
"	" Int. on advancement from 24	
	Nov. 1845 to date	131.08
"	" To Elijah Willis - - - - -	600.00
"	" Int. on advancement from 24	
	Nov. 45 to date	131.00
"	" To W. W. Willis - - - - -	500.00
"	" Int. on advancement from 24	
	Nov. 45 to date	114.24
"	" To Winny Lott - - - - -	600.00
"	" Int. on advancement from 24	
	Nov. 45 to date	131.00
"	" To Martha Mathews - - - - -	500.00
"	" Int. on advancement from 24	
	Nov. 45 to date	114.24
"	" To Sarah Boylston - - - - -	500.00
"	" Int. on advancement from 24	
	Nov. 45 to date	114.00
"	" To Matilda Reed - - - - -	700.00
"	" Int. on advancement from 24	
	Nov. 45 to date	150.11
"	" To P. V. Willis - - - - -	900.00
"	" Int. on advancement from 24	

	Nov. 45 to date	205.00	
1849	To Michael Willis - - - - -	1032.00	
March 1	" Int. on advancement from 24		
	Nov. 45 to date	235.78	
"	To Antonet - - - - -	1000.00	
"	" Int. on advancement from 24		
	Nov. 45 to date	228.48	
"	To Ellen - - - - -	1000.00	
"	" Int. on advancement from 24		
	Nov. 45 to date	228.43	
	Whole amt. of advancements with Int		\$10,944.37
	to be distributed		
	John T. Willis will take		
	1/12 which is	\$ 912.43 1/12	
	Robert M. Willis will take		
	1/12 which is	912.43 1/12	
	Elijah Willis will take		
	1/12 which is	912.43 1/12	
	W. W. Willis will take		
	1/12 which is	912.43 1/12	
	Winny Lott will take		
	1/12 which is	912.43 1/12	
	Martha Mathews will take		
	1/12 which is	912.43 1/12	
	Sarah Boylston will take		
	1/12 which is	912.43 1/12	
	Matilda Reed will take		
	1/12 which is	912.43 1/12	
	P. V. Willis will take		
	1/12 which is	912.43 1/12	
	Michael Willis will take		
	1/12 which is	912.43 1/12	
	Antonet will take 1/12		
	which is	912.43 1/12	
	Ellen will take 1/12		
	which is	912.43 1/12	\$10,944.37

And I do decree the same being subject to all legal discounts or charges the executor may have.
 1 March 1849. Wm. H. Thomson O.B.D.

R. M. Willis Executor in a/c with J. T. Willis one of the distributees

1849	Dr.		
March 1	To amt. of distributive int.		
	in hands of Executor	\$ 3456.10	
	" amt. of advancement in		
	?	<u>902.03</u>	\$ 4,368.13

	Cr.		
1845	By advancement - - - -	1000.00	
Nov. 24	" Int. on Advancement from 24th		
1849	Nov. 45 to date	228.43	
March 1	" amt paid Wm. H. Thomson for		
	this decree	<u>2.00</u>	<u>1,230.43</u>
	Amt. to be distributed amongst		
	the children to J. T. Willis		\$ 3,137.70

They will take as follows:

William A. Willis is entitled		
to 1/10 which is	313.77	
David W. Willis is entitled		
to 1/10 which is	313.77	
James H. Willis is entitled		
to 1/10 which is	313.77	
Matilda A. Willis is entitled		
to 1/10 which is	313.77	
Robert F. Willis is entitled		
to 1/10 which is	313.77	
Haseltine B. Willis is entitled		
to 1/10 which is	313.77	
J. T. Willis is entitled		
to 1/10 which is	313.77	
Elizabeth L. A. Willis is entitled		
to 1/10 which is	313.77	
Francy E. Willis is entitled		
to 1/10 which is	313.77	
Sarah E. Willis is entitled		
to 1/10 which is	<u>313.77</u>	<u>\$ 3,137.70</u>

And I do decree, subject nevertheless to all legal discounts or charges the Executor may have against the distributees.

March 1st, 1849 Wm. H. Thomson
O.B.D.

John Willis must have married several times. When Robert Willis was born in 1773, John Willis second-son-by-that-name of Henry Willis, of Fredericksburg, Va., would have been 45 years of age. He was probably then married to a Sarah Turner or a Sarah Williamson, and it is feasible that soon after his death about 1785, his widow married Richard Johnson who did not live far away. It cannot be answered whether 17-year-old Robert Willis stayed on in his father's home, with two sisters, and was the Robert Willis listed in the 1790 census in Orangeburgh Dist. with 1 male over 16 years and 2 females, or whether he was in the home of Richard Johnson. We do know that in 1796, when he bought 200 acres of land from Richard Johnson, that he was designated by the Clerk as a "Planter." Robert Willis (1773-1844) had many slaves and left a goodly number to each of his children at the time of his death, according to tradition. There are many graves in the "negro cemetery" near the tiny graveyard where he is buried, both not far from the site of his old home, about five miles from the present town of Williston, South Carolina.

This, then, must be our Willis line from Virginia to Barnwell County, S.C.:

1. Henry Willis died before 1698. Issue among others,
2. Francis Willis died in England. Issue Francis m Ann Rich; John remained in England (Diary of Wm. Bird) and
3. Henry Willis, of Fredericksburg, Va. b ca 1692, d 5 Mar. 1750 m 2nd Mildred Lewis-Howell-Brown. Issue among others,
4. John Willis b 16 July 1728, d between 1778-1790, m (1) Nanny (perhaps Price); m (2) perhaps Eugenia or unknown person; m (3) Sarah Turner or Sarah Williamson, Issue among others,
5. Robert Willis, b spring of 1773, d Apr. 6, 1844 m ca. 1795 Keziah Watson b 1780/81 d Sept. 15, 1845.

After the death of (4) John Willis about 1784, his widow is said by tradition to have married Richard Johnston, of Edgefield

Co., and she died before 1800 when a deed of Richard Johnson Sr. to his son Moore Johnson names his wife of that date as "Charity." (Edgefield Co., S.C. Deed Bk. 22, p 40.)

Note above that Wm. Strother had land on Long Cane, that John Willis asked for land near Ninety-Six and Robert Willis, our ancestor named a son Williamson Watson Willis.

Gen'l. Andrew Williamson lived on Long Cane Branch near Ninety-Six, and since there is reason to believe that there was a close connection between the family of our ancestor Robert Willis and the Williamson family, I include here an abstract of the fragmentary will of Gen'l. Andrew Williamson, who was, for years after the Rev. War considered a "traitor" to the American cause; but whom historians now vindicate.

The following is copied from SOUTH CAROLINA, A SHORT HISTORY 1520-1948, by David Duncan Wallace, published by the University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, 1951, Vol. I, p 297:

"Thus for one reason or another...the inhabitants after the fall of Charlestown generally preferred submission to resistance and accepted British protection, as acquiescence in the proclamation of June 3 was called, by acknowledging their allegiance to the King. Among those accepting British allegiance were Henry Middleton, for a few days President of the First Continental Congress, old Mr. Manigault, and Colonel Charles Pinckney, formerly president of the Provincial Congress. Colonel Andrew Pickens surrendered the fort and munitions at Ninety-Six, marched in his men and like them acknowledged British allegiance. Pickens ultimately re-entered the war and fought at the risk of hanging for treason should he be captured. General Andrew Williamson kept his renewed allegiance and ultimately resided near Charlestown, but he rendered the British no service. There is on the contrary some ground for believing that he was one of those who toward the end of the war supplied Col. John Laurens, in charge of General Greene's secret service, with information of affairs in Charlestown. Nevertheless rumor, attacking even his early brilliant ser-

VICES, blighted one of the noblest reputations of the earlier years of the Revolution in South Carolina."

Charleston, S.C. Wills, Vol. 21, p 820-1. WILL OF ANDREW WILLIAMSON, of the Parish of St. Paul's.

My eldest son Andrew Williamson, 700 acres purchased by me from De Costa,

My Anne Williamson (now Walker) a Negro woman named Mary, now in her possession,

To my dau Elizabeth Williamson, a negro woman named Patt, (This dau married Charles Goodwin. W.DeH.)

To the daughters of Catherine Anderson, namely Jane Anderson, and Margaret Anderson, twenty pounds sterling each,

Remainder in four equal parts to my sons Andrew and William Williamson and my two daughters Mary Anne, and Elizabeth Williamson.

If all should die, then to heirs of my brother John and my two sisters Rachel and Jane the former married to (part missing) Ramsey of Alnwick in the County of Northumberland in the Kingdom of Great Britain, or in Scotland, but if Jane have no lawful issue she shall herself share an equal portion with John and Isabel's (sic) child or children.

Ex: Le Roy Hammond

John Walker

Thomas Radcliffe

Benjamin Tutt, all of the State of South Carolina.

McCrady's "South Carolina in the Revolution" states that "Andrew Williamson had three daughters, one daughter Betty married Maj. Charles Goodwin." The third daughter probably died prior to the writing of his will about 1785. She could have married a Willis. Gen'l. Williamson also had an eldest son LeRoy Hammond Williamson whose son Leroy Williamson was a Colonel in the Rev. War at the age of 16 yrs. (Family History).

As stated elsewhere, there was a "Jane Willis" on the list of members of the Baptist Church in Barnwell Co., near Ellenton, S.C. about 1810.

A William Willis moved to Kentucky from South Carolina, ca 1800. His family Bible in the possession of Blanche Willis Allen of Modesto, California, states that he was born in 1780 (in South Carolina). He left the tradition that his parents both died when he was young and relatives brought up his brothers and himself "in the swamps of the Santee". He married Mariah Anderson. Their son or grandson Anderson Willis named his first son Edwin Goodwin Willis.

Another Williamson family that settled in Cheraw Dist., not too far from where John Willis settled on the Congaree was that of a Thomas Williamson, who appears in the 1790 census, p. 45, with 4 males over 16; 5 males under 16; and 3 females.

If Robert Willis (1773-1844) was of the Genl. Andrew Williamson line, the following is pertinent: In Wm. & Mary Quarterly (1) Vol. 12, pp. 120-121, is an account of the Tyler family. John Tyler (father-in-law of Andrew Williamson) was son of Richard Tyler, of Essex Co., Va. (Tyler's III, p 222). Richard Tyler first appears in Gloucester Co. records in 1674. His will was recorded in Essex County (Bk. 5), dated 1734 naming sons Richard, John and William; daus. Mary, wife of John Bougham and Susannah; and wife Anne. The will of son John Tyler was recorded in Essex Co., Va., (Bk. 11), dated 1758, naming wife Frances and five daughters. Their daughter, "Betty", married Andrew Williamson, of South Carolina; Mary Ann married LeRoy Hammond, also of S.C. and Hannah Tyler m. James Anderson, of Gloucester Co., Va. A James Anderson also later appears on the Edgefield Co., S.C. records), etc.

John Tyler married Frances Graves, daughter of William Graves, who came from England.

If "Nannie", the wife of John Willis, was a Price, the following scattered items may prove of importance: Va. Hist. Mag. 5, p 124, Capt. William Price, Richard Kemp and others were members of the Council in James City March 10, 1640.

Ibid, p 165, Will of Mrs. Margaret Perrott, 2nd wife of Richard Perrott, dated Oct. 21, 1687, legatees: godson (step-

son?) Henry Perrott, daughter Margaret Price, godson Philip Warweak, goddau. Margaret Prior, dau. Mrs. Sarah Perrott, friend Mary Goodlow and god-dau. Mrs. Winifred Griffin (my diamond ring); brother Mr. Anthony Haywood of Boston, Mass... etc. (See Jennings Family.)

Ibid, p 442, William Winston married Polly Overton and had Mrs. Dabney, Mrs. Price and other children. William Winston was the son of Isaac Winston and Mary Dabney, of Hanover Co., Va. Their daughter Sarah was the mother of Patrick Henry.

LEWISES

(from, LEWISES, MERIWETHERS AND THEIR KIN, by S. T. L. Anderson)

"The love of ancient ancestry is said to be laughably displayed by the Lewis family of England who are said to have in their possession a picture of the Ark with Noah emerging from it bearing a large trunk labelled, 'Papers belonging to the Lewis Family'." Extract from "A Glimpse of an old Dutch Town." Harpers Magazine, March 1881.

The Lewises have the Celtic love of genealogy, and have always kept record of themselves and ancestry, if possible, and have searched out latterly quite a number of long and indisputable tracings. And in spite of the many sources of other blood, this love for family history asserts itself in spite of all obstacles at some period in the life of each Lewis; for all claim that name who have a drop of Lewis blood, no matter how far they go back to trace it.

THE "WARNER HALL" LEWISES

This branch of Lewises has several long tracings which can

be more readily understood if reduced to chart form, so I have copied each extract and numbered each one as Charts I, II, III, and IV.

Since the descendants of the Warner Hall Lewises trace beyond Noah, his trunk could no longer hold the "Papers of the Lewis Family"; for their genealogies have spread out far and wide since the Flood.

Chart No. I taken from the chart of "Lineage of the Royal Family of Great Britain," runs down to Lionel and his daughter, Philippa.

Chart II does the same, also Chart III.

As Col. George Reade of England and Virginia traces directly back to these lines through Philippa Plantagenet, daughter of Lionel, all the families--Warner, Lee, Lewis, Washington, Reade, and others descending from Col. George Reade, have these long descents.

ILLUSTRIOUS LINEAGE
of the
ROYAL HOUSE OF GREAT BRITAIN
EXTRACT--CHART I

JUDAH

Dardanus or Darius

Erichthonius

Tros or Troes

Ilus

Laomedon

Priam

Daughter married Memnon

Tror, their son, whom we call Thor

Hloritha

Einridi

Vingethorr

Vingener

Moda

Authority:

Sanchoniatho in Tara Vindicata.
The Ancient Icelandic Langfed-
gatal in Sharon Turner, Windsor
Castle MS. Genealogy.

Magi
 SCEAF (Anglo-Saxon Chronicle)
 Bedwig (Sharon Turner)
 Hwala

Hadra or Athra
 Hermon or Itormann
 Heremad
 Sceldwea or Scealdna
 Beaw or Beaf

Taetwa
 Geat or Getha (Heralds' College MS.)

Flocwal
 Flokwal
 Flocwaldus
 Flym
 Fredulfe

ODIN married FREA

Baeldaeg
 Brand
 Gewis
 Elesa

Yngvi
 Fiolner
 Svegdir
 Vanlandi

Authority:
 (Anderson, Du Chaillu, Haigh,
 Sharon Turner.)

Visbur
 Domaldi
 Domar

CERDIC

Dyggvi
 Dagr

Creoda

Agni

Cyneric

Alrek

Ceawlin

Yngvi

Cuthwine

Jorund

Aun the Aged

Egil

Cutha

Ottar

Ceolwald

Adils of Upsala

Eystein

Coenraed

Yngvar

Ingild

Braut Onund

Eoppa

Ingiald the Cunning

Eafa	Olaf the Woodcutter	
Ealmond	Halfdan the Whitefoot	
	Eystein	
	Halfdan the Meek	
EGBERT	Gudrod the Magnanimous	
Ethelwolf	Halfdan the Black	
ALFRED the Great	HARALD FAIRHAIR	
Edward	Rognwald	
Edmund	ROLLO	
Edgar	William	
Ethelred	Richard "The Little Duke"	
Edmond	Richard	
Edward	Robert	
St. Margaret Athel-	William the Conqueror	
ling who married		
Malcolm Canmore		
King of Scotland	Henry I.	
Matilda married		
Henry I.		(Logan)
Maud or Matilda m. Geoffrey Plantagenet who was		
descended from Melisenda, Heiress and Ance-		
tress of the Kings of Jerusalem.		
Henry II		
John		
Henry III		
Edward I		
Edward II		
Edward III		
Lionel Duke of Clarence m. Lady Elizabeth de Burgh		
Philippa m. Edmund Mortimer		
Elizabeth Mortimer m. Henry Hotspur		
Henry Percy Earl of Northumberland		
Margaret Percy m. Sir Wm. Gascoigne		
Elizabeth Gascoigne m. Sir George Talbois		
Anne Talbois m. Sir Edward Dymoke, Hereditary Champion		
Frances Dymoke m. Sir Thomas Windebank		
Mildred Windebank m. Robert Reade		
Col. George Reade m. Mildred Martian		
Mildred Reade m. Col. Augustine Warner		
Elizabeth Warner m. Col. John Lewis 2rd. of "Warner Hall"		

Authority:

Battle Abbey Roll.

"The Royal Lineage" by Mrs. Watson.

End of Chart I

EXTRACT--CHART II

Authorities: Glover, Grimaldi, Tara Vindicata, Bede.

DAVID

Solomon

Rehoboam

Abijah

Asa

Jehosaphat

Jehoram

Ahaziah

Joash

Amaziah

Uzziah

Jotham

Ahaz

Hezekiah

Manasseh

Amon

Josiah

Zedekiah

Tea Tephi m. Eochaidh the HEREMON

Note: Tea Tephi, "Daughter of God's House", Princess of the House of David, came to Ireland 580 B.C. and brought with her a relic of immemorial antiquity said to be Jacob's Pillow, and to have been carried to and from Egypt with the Israelites. It was later called "The Stone of Scone". Her husband, Eochaidh, was descended from Judah. (Totten, Feilden.)

From Tea Tephi and Eochaidh the HEREMON descended:

Ungaine the Great

Angus the Prolific



KINGS IN IRELAND

Enna
 Labhra Luire
 Blathachta
 Easamhuin
 Roignein
 Finlocha
 Finn
 Eochaidh Feidhlioch
 Brias Fineamhuas (A.D. commences)
 Lughaidh Riebdearg
 Crimthann
 Fearadhach
 Tuathal Teachtmar
 Conn of the 100 Battles
 Saraid----- married -----

KINGS IN SCOTLAND

Fiachra or Ferchard
 FERGUS I
 Manius or Maine
 Dornadil or Arandil
 Reuthar

Eders or Edersceol

Conaire the Great
 Corbred I
 Corbred II
 Modha Lamha
 Conaire II

CORBRED DALRIADA or Reuda

Eochaidh or Etholdius
 Athirco of Athirkiwr
 Findachar
 Thrinklind
 Fincormach
 Romaich

Angus

Eochaidh of Ethod

Erc, Erch, or Erth

FERGUS THE GREAT died A. D. 506

Dongard

Govran

Aydan

Eugene or Eochaid

Donald

Ethach

Ethdre

Ethafind or Ethfin

Ethas or Achaios

Alpin

KENNETH MACALPIN, 1st King of Scotland
 Constantine

Donald VI
 Malcolm
 Kenneth II
 Malcolm II
 Beatrix
 Duncan
 Malcolm Canmore m. Margaret of England
 Matilda married Henry I
 Maud or Matilda m. Geoffrey Plantagenet
 Henry II
 John
 Henry III
 Edward I
 Edward II
 Edward III
 Lionel m. Lady Elizabeth de Burgh
 Philippa m. Sir Edward Mortimer
 Elizabeth Mortimer m. Henry Hotspur
 Henry Percy Earl of Northumberland
 Henry Percy Earl of Northumberland
 Margaret Percy m. Sir William Gascoigne
 Elizabeth Gascoigne m. Sir George Talbois
 Ann Talbois m. Sir Edward Dymoke
 Frances Dymoke m. Sir Thomas Windebank
 Mildred Windebank m. Robert Reade
 Col. George Reade m. Mildred Martian
 Mildred Reade m. Col. Augustine Warner 2nd
 Elizabeth Warner m. Col. John Lewis 2nd of
 "Warner Hall", Gloucester County, Va.
 End of Chart II

Authorities:
 "Some Notable
 Families of
 America."
 "The Royal
 Lineage."
 "Henning's
 Statues at
 Large."

CHART III
 Descent of
 LEWIS OF "WARNER HALL"
 from

CHARLEMANGE AND HIS 3RD WIFE, HILDEGARDE
 (Died 783)

Pharamond King of the Franks A. D. 300
 Clodis " " "
 Albro " " "

Verbertus King of the Franks
 Ausbert " " " "
 Arnold " " " "
 St. Arnolph, Bishop of Metz
 Ancheons and Bezga, daughter of Pippen of Landin 600 A. D.
 Pepin d'Heredit, Mayor of the Palace
 Charles Martel, King of France
 Pepin le Bref, King of France and Bertha da Leon
 Charlemange, Emperor of the West and Hildegarde, daughter of
 Duke of Suabia, Childebrand
 Louis I, King of France and Judith, Fair Maid of Bavaria.
 Ludwig, Emperor of Germany
 Charles II, Emperor of Germany and Rechedis
 Princess Judith and Baldwin of Flanders (1st count)
 Baldwin II, Count of Flanders and Ethelweda, daughter of Alfred
 the Great of England.
 Arnolph the Great, Count of Flanders and Luxemburg, 1067 A.D.
 married 2nd, Madeline (daughter of Robert the Pious and
 his 2nd wife)
 Baldwin III of Flanders and Matilda of Saxony
 Arnolph II, Count of Flanders and Susanna, daughter of Beren-
 ger II, King of Italy
 Baldwin IV, Count of Flanders and Ogive of Luxemburg
 Baldwin V, Count of Flanders and Adela, daughter of Robert II
 of France
 Maude of Flanders, and William the Conqueror, 15th in descent
 from Adelis the Great, King of Sweden.
 Henry I, and Matilda of Scotland, 13th in descent from Ethafind,
 King of Scotland.
 Maude of England, and Geoffrey Plantaganet who was the 8th
 in descent from Fulk I, Count of Anjou, 900 A. D.
 Henry II of England and Eleanor of Guienne
 John, King of England and Isabella of Angouleme
 Henry III and Eleanor of Provence, 9th in descent from Armadeus
 of Provence
 Edward I and Eleanor of Castile, 11th in descent from Sancho II,
 King of Navarre
 Edward II and Isabella of France
 Edward III and Philippa of Hainault

Lionel, Duke of Clarence and Elizabeth DeBurgh
 Edward Mortimer, Earl of March, and Philippa Plantaganet
 Elizabeth Mortimer and Henry Percy (Hotspur)
 Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland, and Eleanor DeNeville
 Henry III, Earl of Northumberland, m. Lady Eleanor Poinings
 Margaret Percy, m. Sir William Gascoigne
 Elizabeth Gascoigne, m. Sir Geo. Talbois
 Ann Talbois, m. Sir Edward Dymoke
 Frances Dymoke, m. Sir Thomas Windebank
 Mildred Windebank, m. Robert Reade
 George Reade, m. Elizabeth Martian of Virginia (pronounced
 Marchen)

End of Chart III

CHART IV Descent of

"WARNER HALL LEWISES" THROUGH EARLS OF DORSET

Authority: See "Burke's Peerage to Twenty-Six Generations"

Robert, Count of Anjou
 Robert, Duke of France
 Hugh, Grand Count of Anjou and Duke of France
 Hugh Capet
 Robert
 Henry I, King of France
 Philip I, King of France
 Louis VI, King of France
 Louis VII, King of France
 Philip II, King of France
 Louis VIII, King of France
 Louis X, King of France
 Philip III, King of France
 Margaret m. Edward I of England
 Thomas Plantagenet
 Margaret Plantagenet m. Lord John Seagraves
 Elizabeth Seagraves m. Sir John Mowbray
 Thomas de Mowbray m. Elizabeth
 Margaret de Mowbray m. Sir Robert Howard
 Sir John Howard m. Catherine
 Thomas II, Duke of Norfolk m. Elizabeth
 Thomas III, Duke of Norfolk m. Elizabeth

Henry, Earl of S _____ m. Frances _____
 Thomas IV, Duke of Norfolk m. _____
 Margaret m. Robert, Earl of Dorset
 Ann m. Sir Edmund Lewis
 Gen. Robert Lewis of Wales
 Robert Lewis of Brecon, Wales came to Virginia
 John Lewis m. Isabella Warner
 John Lewis m. Elizabeth Warner (Warner Hall Lewises)

Catherine; Elizabeth; Col. John Lewis; Col. Charles
 Lewis; Col. Robert Lewis; Elizabeth; Isabella; and
 Ann were the eight children of this marriage whose
 names are preserved.

END OF CHART IV

- - -

THE ROYAL CHAMPIONSHIP of MARMION AND DYMOKE

Sir Robert Marmyon "Dispensator" Sieur de Fontenay le-
 Marmyon (descended from Rolf the Granger, Hereditary Champion
 to the Duke of Normandy) came over with Willism I and was
 granted Scrivelsby and created Champion of England.

Sir Roger Marmyon, Knight
 2nd Champion

Sir Robert
 3rd Champion

Sir Robert
 4th Champion

Sir Robert
 5th Champion
 Justiciary and Sheriff of Worcestershire

Sir Robert
 6th Champion

Sir Philip Marmyon
 7th Champion
 Governor of Kenilworth
 Lord of Tamworth, Scrivelsby, etc.

Margaret
 1st daughter and heiress of
 Tamworth, married Sir Baldwin
 Freville, Knight claimed the
 Championship but was disallow-
 ed by Court of Claims I, V.

(Richard 2, 1st Y.)

Joan
 2nd daughter and heiress of
 Scrivelsby and the Champion-
 ship married Sir Thomas
 Ludlow, Knight and Dep't.
 Champion.

Thomas de Ludlow D. V. M.

Margaret Ludlow, daughter and heiress of Scrivelsby and the
 Championship; d. 2nd Henry 5, married Sir John Dymoke Kn't.,
 Dep't. Champion at Coronation of Richard II (defeated Freville.)
 R. G. M. P. Line.

Sir Thomas Knt. K. B.
 Dep't Champion for his
 Mother for Henry IV and
 Henry V, d. 1422.

Sir Philip Knt. /
 Champion to Henry VI

ARMS

Crest.....Crest is a Hare's head.

Shield.....On the shield are two Lions with
 a Crown over each one's head.

Shield is black.

Lions are silver.

Crowns are gold.

Motto....."PRO REGE DIMICO".

ROYAL LINEAGE (Continued)

Extract from "A Royal Lineage", by Annah Robinson Watson.

Edward III, m. Philipa of Hainault, 1312-1327.

Their 2nd son, Lionel, Duke of Clarence m. The Lady Elizabeth de Burg, 1368. She was daughter of William de Burg, Earl of Ulster.

She was descended from Charlemagne, from Henry III and from the Red Hand, King of Connaught.

Tradition says that three Vikings approaching Ireland agreed that he who first touched land should own it. Seeing himself outstripped by the others, the hindmost one cut off his left hand and flung it bleeding, and red, far ashore, thus making good his title as first to touch the land. War-like clans descended from him used the (Red Hand) on their crests, and shields. The Lewises have this crest--"a bloody hand in a dragon's mouth," and since they are lineally descended from this Red Handed King of Connaught this legend probably explains the crest.

Philipa Plantagenet, daughter of Lionel and Lady Elizabeth de Burg m. Edward Mortimer, Earl of March, who was descended from Llewellenap Lowerth and other distinguished Welsh chieftains.

Elizabeth Mortimer m. Henry Percy (Hotspur).

Henry Percy, 2nd Earl of Northumberland m. Lady Eleanor Neville (she was descended from John of Gaunt and his wife Catherine of Swynford.

Their son Henry Percy, 3rd Earl of Northumberland m. Lady Eleanor Poynings.

Lady Margaret Percy m. Sir William Gascoigne.

Lady Elizabeth Gascoigne m. Sir George Talbois.

Lady Anne Talbois m. Sir Edward Dymoke, Hereditary Champion of England, descended from Edward I and his 2nd wife through their son Thomas Plantagenet; also from Princess Joan d'Aines who m. Gilbert, called the Red Earl of Clare.

Lady Anne Talbois was descended from both John of Gaunt and Lionel Duke of Clarence (two sons of Edward III.)

Sir Edward Dymoke descended in the female line from Robert, Marmyon (Lord), cousin to William the Conqueror and hereditary Champion to the Dukes of Normandy through his descent from Rollo, the Dane. He fought at Hastings, and was hereditary Champion at the Coronation of William and Matilda at Winchester 1068, holding Tamworth Castle and Scrivelsby Court in England and Fontenaye in Normandy for this service.

The Dymokes still hold Scrivelsby under this tenure. The last exercise of this office was at the coronation of George IV when

the Champion in full armor rode into the state dining hall, issued his challenge to any that might contest the King's right, drank the King's health out of a golden cup that he retained as a fee, then backed his horse out of the presence of the King.

Their daughter, Frances Dymoke m. in 1556, Sir Thomas Windebank (son of Sir Richard Windebank of Haines Hill, Parish of Hurst, Berkshire, England, and his wife Margaret, daughter of Griffith ap Henry.) He was clerk of the signet to Queen Elizabeth and her successor, James I. He died October 24, 1607.

Mildred Windebank m. Robert Reade (son of Andrew Reade, who died 1623, in his Manor of Linkinholt, Hampshire, England, and who m. Miss Cooke of Kent. His will was probated October 24, 1623.)

Their 5th son Col. George Reade born 1600, died 1671, came to Virginia in 1637. Married Elizabeth Martian, daughter of Capt. Nicholas Martian, a Frenchman, who came to Virginia and naturalized both himself and his name, which was originally spelled Martineu.

NICHOLAS MARTIAN, (MARTIAU), (MARTINEU)

Nicholas Martian was the first owner of the land on which later Yorktown was established, was of French birth, a Protestant, a naturalized citizen of England, was in Virginia 1621 with a wife and two children, married second after 1625, Jane, widow of Lieutenant Berkley, married a third time, 1645, Isabella Beech, (colonial record given later), divided his estate between his daughters Elizabeth, wife of Col. George Reade; Mary, wife of Col. John Scarbrook; and Sarah, wife of William Fuller, Governor of Maryland. All three of these daughters were by Elizabeth, his first wife. Nicholas Martian's will is dated March 1, 1656 and is recorded in York County 1657.

This ends the copy from "Lewises, Meriwethers and their Kin", by Anderson.

The Warner Hall Lewises: "These Lewises, coming through long lines of descent from many rulers, are remarkable for ability in civil affairs, though have a military record also. In Wales they were sheriffs, county lieutenants, justices and members of Parliament, from Brecknock, Pembroke, Glamorganshire

and other Welsh counties; their abilities asserting themselves in many directions." (Notable Families of America, Mrs. Watson)

General tradition gives the immediate ancestor of the Warner Hall Lewises in Wales as Sir Edmond Lewis, Witny County, m Lady Ann Dorset (daughter of Earl of Dorset, see Chart 4.) Among their issue was General Robert Lewis of Brecon, Wales, born 1574.

The latter's son, Gen. Robert Lewis, the emigrant, was born in Brecon, Wales 1607; came with his wife Elizabeth (and kindred, according to Green's Hist. Families of Ky., p 84) 1635-1645 and settled in Gloucester County, Virginia. There are records of two children: William Lewis of Chemokin, New Kent Co., died without issue and his estate was inherited by his brother Major John Lewis (Hennings Statutes at Large) 1769.

Major John Lewis I., born 1635, member of House of Burgesses 1653 and King's Council from Gloucester County 1658-59-60, married Isabella Warner, and he and his wife are said to have been the original settlers of "Warner Hall," named in her honor.

Councilor John Lewis II. (son and only remaining child of John and Isabella Lewis) one of his Majesty's Honorable Council of this colony, was born ye 30th of November 1669, died November 14, 1725 (Member of King's Council 1715). He m Elizabeth Warner, born November 24, 1672 and died February 6, 1720. They had fourteen children. The names of nine only are known, the others are supposed to have died in childhood. Issue:

1. Mildred m. 1st John Howell, 2nd Dr. Brown, 3rd Henry Willis.
2. Catherine baptized 1702
3. Elizabeth " 1702
4. Col. John Lewis III., bapt. November 1702, married Frances Fielding, daughter of Henry Fielding of King and Queen County. Issue: 1. Warner Lewis b 1720; 2. Name illegible on the old Church register; 3. Col. Fielding Lewis, b 1725; 4. Mildred died in infancy; 5. Charles Lewis b Feb. 20, 1729; 6. John Lewis, b Mar. 5, 1727, "View de L'eau (no issue).

5. Col. Charles Lewis of the Byrd, Goochland County, b Oct. 13, 1696, d 1779, m 1717, Mary Howell, daughter of John Howell, gentleman. He married May 28, 1717. He took up the Byrd plantation in 1733, was an officer in the French and Indian Wars, and a member of the Council. Issue: 1. John Lewis b Oct. 8, 1720, d 1791, m Jane Lewis; 2. Charles Lewis of Buckeyeland m Mary Randolph; 3. Elizabeth Lewis m Wm. Kennon; 4. James Lewis m Elizabeth Taylor, moved to Granville Co., N.C.; 5. Mary Lewis died young; 6. Howell Lewis m Isabella Willis, dau. of Henry and Mildred Lewis Willis, moved to Granville Co., N.C.; 7. Ann Lewis m Edmund Taylor; 8. Mary Lewis d young; 9. Robert Lewis m Jane Woodson; 10. Frances Lewis m Robert Lewis, Jr. of Belvoir.
6. Col. Robert Lewis of Belvoir, Albemarle Co., bapt. May 4, 1702, m Jane Meriwether 1725.
7. Elizabeth, bapt. March 7, 1706.
8. Isabella m Dr. Thomas Clayton
9. Ann bapt. Feb. 14, 1712.

Col. John Lewis m 2nd Mrs. Priscilla Carter. No issue.

Many members of the families of Col. John Lewis III. and Col. Charles Lewis moved into North Carolina and southern Virginia. The 1790 census for North Carolina shows Howell Lewis and Howell Lewis, Jr. in Granville Co.; Warner, Charles, Morgan, John and James, with others in Halifax Co., and Fielding Lewis in Orange Co.

Thomas Weathersbee of Halifax-Martin Co., N.C., married a Sarah Lewis about 1750-55. She must have been of this family of Lewises. She could have been the second child of Col. John Lewis III., whose name was illegible on the Church Register, born 1722/3. Thomas and his wife had sons named Lewis, Thomas (our ancestor), Willis, John and a son whose widow appears in the 1790 census for Martin Co., N.C. as Lucy Weathersley (sic)

with a small boy and girl. Thomas Weathersbee died before 1785. In Nansemond Co., Va. on the Tax Lists for 1785, is listed a Sarah Wetherley (no "s") with 4 whites and 2 blacks. The son Thomas Weathersbee was also listed on the 1790 census for Martin Co., as Thomas Weathersley.

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